MAXIMUMROCKNROLL

#179 APRIL 1998 $3.00

INSIDE: EXPLOSIVE KATE, DOUCHE FLAG, P.A.W.N.S., IDYLS, TRES KIDS, BOY SETS FIRE, CHAPTER 11 RECORDS + THE RANDUMBS, THE POSERS, GARAGE RATS, THE HISTORY OF DANGERHOUSE RECORDS

SUBSCRIPTIONS: (postpaid prices)
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BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE:
Back issues 139, 143, 145-146, 148-149, 152-155, 156 Pt 2, 157-162, 164-178 are as stated above in subscription info. See descriptions on page after next.

DEADLINES FOR NEXT ISSUE:
Scene Reports: continuously, with photos!
Interviews: continuously, with photos!
Ad Reservations: call to make sure.
Ad Copy In: by 22nd of previous month-- no later!!
Issue out: by 2nd week of following month.

AD SIZES AND RATES:
1/6 page: (2 1/2" x 5") $25
1/3 page long: (2 1/2" x 10") $60
1/3 page square: (5" x 5") $70

AD CRITERIA:
Due to backlogs, we can only run new ads for music and zine releases. All other ads must be classfieds only. We will not accept major label or related ads, or ads for comps or EPs that include major label bands.

CLASSIFIEDS: 40 words cost $3/60 words max for $4. No racist, sexist or fascist material. Send typed if possible. Cash only!!! Expect a two month backlog!

COVER: The Dils

SELL MRR AT GIGS: Within U.S., we'll sell them to you at $1.50 each ppd, cash up front. Must order 5 or more of the same issue. Need street address (not PO Box) to UPS to.

STORES: If you have problems getting MRR from your distributors, try contacting Mordam Records at tel (415) 642-6800 or fax (415) 642-6810. Also available from Dutch East, Get Hip, Smash, Subterranean, Last Gasp, Rotz, See Hear, Cargo, Armadillo, Ubiquity, Choke Inc, Desert Moon and Marginal.

Please send all records, zines, letters, articles, scene reports, photos, subscriptions, interviews, ads, etc., to:

MAXIMUMROCKNROLL
PO BOX 460760
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94146-0760
Phone (415) 923-9814
Fax (415) 923-9617
Email: maximumrnr@mindspring.com
(use this mainly for comments & letters. Use phone for ads & other business stuff)

TOP 10

For what it's worth (not much), here's some of the MRR crew's current Top 10 lists of stuff we review.

ROB COONS

CHARLES BRONSON-Youth Attack-LP	FLACHENBRAND-Wolkermord-CD
NCOS-Discography-CD	NO LESS-Boned In-EP
TAMPERE SS-Sotaa-EP	SLIGHT SLAPPERS/SHORT HATE TEMPER-split EP
V/A-Jap-CD	V/A-Network Of Friends Vol 2-2xLP
NASHVILLE PUSSY-Let Them Eat Pussy-LP	FILTH/GRIMPLE-live

JACQUELINE PRICHARD

THE CHINKEES-Karaoke With The...-EP	ANTI-PRODUCT-War On Nature-EP
THE LAZY MUSIC GROUP-Fire Escape-45	MURDER MANIACS-EP/KIDS ARE SICK-45
SMASHDOWN-EP/DEMENTIA THIRTEEN-EP	KNUCKLEHEAD-EP/THE TROUBLE-EP
HIVES/PRICKS-split-EP/THE SECULARS-EP	RECTIFY/KURU-split-EP/GLOBAL HOLOCAUST-EP
BONECRUSHER-EP/TAMPERE SS-EP	FUCKFACE-EP/KILL THE MAN...-EP

JEFF HEERMANN

DISTRACTORS-Shithouse Crazy-EP	PUSHERS-Hard Times-EP
IRRITATIONS-Schoolyard Justice-EP	JOHNNY DOLE & THE SCABS-Scab Animal '77-12"
SECULARS-Social Skills-EP	F-WORD-Like It Or Not-LP
ARMITAGE SHANKS-Cacophony Now-LP	THOSE UNKNOWN-LP
TITANS-Instant Disasters-LP	KIDS ARE SICK-Backstabbers-EP

TOM HOPKINS

DICK DASTARDLY-I Wanna Eat My Nazi Bitch-EP	V/A-Killed By Epitaph-2xEP/BROADWAYS-LP
NASHVILLE PUSSY-Let Them Eat Pussy-LP	V/A-Network Of Friends Vol. 2-2xLP
TAMPERE SS-Sotaa-EP/NO LESS-Boxed In-EP	SHOWCASE SHOWDOWN/THE TWERPS-split-8"
IRRITATIONS-Schoolyard Justice-EP	DISTRACTORS-Shithouse Crazy-EP
TORCHES TO ROME-Mass For The Dead-LP	CHARLES BRONSON-Youth Attack-LP

CAROLYN KEDDY

MORNING SHAKES-Lotta Trash! Lotta Action!-LP	NASHVILLE PUSSY-Let Them Eat Pussy-LP
DISTRACTORS-Shithouse Crazy-EP	TURPENTINES-Give This!-EP
IRRITATIONS-Schoolyard Justice-EP	LOS PINKOS-Girl Krazy-EP/REAL KIDS- both 7"s
LIZARDS-Sick Of You-EP	QUADRAJETS-Pay The Deuce-LP
TITANS-Instant Disasters-LP	JOHNNY DOLE & THE SCABS-Scab Animal-LP

RAY LUJAN

HORACE GOES SHIING-EP/BEN GRIM-EP	JOHNNIES-12 Steps To Nowhere-CD
FACING DOWN-No Offense Scorpio-CD	LOOSE CHANGE-D Is For Delinquent-CD
DIESEL BOY-Venus Envy-LP	FOUR LETTER WORD-A Nasty Piece Of Work-LP
GLUECIFER-Ridin' The Tiger-LP	LOS PINKOS-EP/BONECRUSHER-EP
SCARED OF CHAKA/FLAKE MUSIC-split-EP	SENZA SICURA-Pio Di 1000-CD

TIMOJHEN MARK

BORIS THE SPRINKLER-Mega Anal-LP	CHARLES BRONSON-Youth Attack-LP
FUCKFACE-Bastard-EP/NO LESS-Boxed In-EP	JOHNNY DOLE & THE SCABS-Scab Animal 77-12"
LEATHERFACE-Cherry Knowle-LP	MOTORSAGENSERVICE-CD/NEOS-Discography-CD
SOY-Tales From The Tofugraphic Oceans-EP	SUPERFAN-Both EP's
TORCHES TO ROME-Mass For The Dead-LP	V/A-Killed By Epitaph-2xLP

ALLAN MCNAUGHTON

TORCHES TO ROME-12"	LEATHERFACE-Cherry Knowle-LP
SUPERFAN-Out Of Style-EP/Fuck You-EP	V/A-Killed By Epitaph-2xLP
V/A-Network Of Friends Vol. 2-2xLP	STRATFORD MERCENARIES-Live In The USA...-EP
THOSE UNKNOWN-No Prevail-LP	KILL THE MAN WHO QUESTIONS-#1 Asshole-EP
V/A-We Are Bacteria-EP	SCREECHING WEASEL-Major Label Deput-12"

TOP 10

Please send us your records (2 copies of vinyl, if possible--one for MRR and one for reviewer), or CD-only release. See Records section for where to send tapes.

RAIMUNDO MURGIA

X/EXODUS/FILTH-Live	THOSE UNKNOWN-LP
LOKAEMIE-EP&LP	NASHVILLE PUSSY-Let Them Eat Pussy-LP
TIME BOMB 77-Protect & Serve-LP	F-WORD-Like It Or Not-LP
JOHNNY DOLE & THE SCABS-LP	GLUECIFER-Ridin' The Tiger-LP
Underground Medicine-mailorder	THE TROUBLE-EP

JAH NELL

SHOWCASE SHOWDOWN/THE TWERPS-split-EP	THE HIVES/THE PRICKS-split-EP
THE PROSTITUTES-Twenty-Two-EP	LOST GOAT-live
THE REAL KIDS-Now You Know-EP	THE REAL KIDS-Bad To Worse-EP
THE PEE CHEES-Antarticists-EP	THE HELLACOPTERS-all 7"s
F-WORD-Like It Or Not-LP	The Turd-filled Donut #1-zine

BRUCE ROEHRS

POBLERS UNITED-Full Contact-EP	THOSE UNKNOWN-LP/LOIKAEMIE-EP
THE TROUBLE-EP/NO ONE'S VICTIM-EP	MAIN STREET SAINTS-Johnny Bomb-EP
LAGÉR LADS-Bruisèd Boozed & Tattooed-EP	DUCKY BOYS/PINKERTON THUGS-split-45
THE OI SCOUTS/SQUIGGY-split-EP	URBN DK/LOS SUBVERIVOS-split-EP
MOLOKO MEN-Clockwork Ultra Violence-EP	JOHNNY DOLE & THE SCABS-Scab Animal-LP

LEAH URBANO

VISION-The Kids Still Have A Lot To Say- LP	TRAIL-10"
ASSERT-Thanks & Four Fingers Fold To A Fist-EP	OIL-Falling Behind-EP
TORCHES TO ROME-EP	DOWN BY LAW-No Equalized-EP
CHARLES BRONSON-Youth Attack-LP	NO SOLUTION-7 Miles-EP
SLIGHT SLAPPERS/SHORT HATE TEMPER-split-LP	Hodgepodge Zine #3

RYAN WELLS

REAL KIDS-Both EP's	BLITZKRIEG BOP-Top Of Bops-CD
ELECTRIC EELS-Their Satanic-CD	DICK DASTARDLY-I Wanna-EP
DISTRACTORS-Shithouse Crazy-EP	JOHNNY DALE & THE SCABS-Scab Animal-12"
LOS PINKOS-Girl Crazy-EP	SECULARS-Social Skills-EP
V/A-Killed By Epitaph-LP	ARMITAGE SHANKS-Cacophany Now-LP

TIM YOHANNAN

KRAYS-Inside Warfare-LP/THOSE UNKNOWN-LP	IRRITATIONS-Schoolyard Justice-EP
SCREECHING WEASEL-Major Label Debut-12"	V/A-Killed By Epitaph-2xLP
DISTRACTIONS-Shithouse-EP	JOHNNY DOLE & THE SCABS-Scab Animal 1977-12"
SUPERFAN-Fuck You-EP	OI SCOUTS/SQUIGGY-split-EP
RUNT-Go The Whole Hog-LP	HIVES/PRICKS-split-EP

REMA YOUNG & KENNY KAOS

NASHVILLE PUSSY-Let Them Eat Pussy-LP	HELLACOPTERS-all 7"s
KIDS ARE BACK-Backstabbers...-EP	MORNING SHAKES-LP&CD
GLUECIGER-LP/DONNAS-LP	H-BLOCK 101-A Voice In The Crowd-EP
THE FANCYLADS-Everything Is You-45	THE PROSTITUTES-Twenty-Two-EP
DISTRACTORS-Shithouse Crazy-EP	THE TURPENTINES-Give This-EP

ZINE TOP 10

Dropout #5	Woundig #5
Not A Significant Source #2	Conspiracy Comix #15
Mad Monks #12	Teen Fag #6
Atrophy #2	Grundig #3
Hodge Podge #3	Holy Bile #9

ZINE SHITWORKERS

Marian Anderson	Andrew Ataie
Aragorn	Josh Baker
Paul Barger	Michelle Barnhardt
Toby Bitter	Lily Boe
Jerry Booth	Enrico Cadena
Chris Charla	Mel Cheplowitz
Brianna Chesser	Catherine Cook
Jeremy Cool	Rob Coons
Heather Daniels	Mikel Delgado
Rafael DiDonato	Timothy Doran
Jodi Feldman	Jonathan Floyd
Gardner Fusuhara	Brian Gathy
Todd Gullion	Katja Gussmann
Lance Hahn	Harald Hartmann
Jeff Heermann	Tom Hopkins
Jenn Hyman	George Impulse
Jux	Kenny Kaos
Carolyn Keddy	Mick Krash
Dulcinea Loudmouth	Michael Lucas
Ray Lujan	Hal MacLean
Timojhen Mark	Mary Jane
Jeff Mason	Tobia Jean Minckler
Mundo Murguia	Allan McNaughton
Mike Millett	Jah Nell
Shawn Nuzzo	Bruce Roehrs
Greta S	Harry Sherrill
Steve Spinali	Marc Spinale
Martin Sprouse	Dave Stevenson
Sean Sullivan	Travis T
Trixie	Adam Turk
Leah Urbano	Jason Valdez
Jon Von Zelowitz	Max Ward
Ryan Wells	Shane White
Joe Whiting	Kelli Williams
Winni Wintermeyer	Charles Wolski
Jeff Yih	Rema Young

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Josh Rutledge	Steve
Liang Wei	PC Simonelli
Joe Donohoe	

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#139/Oct '94. Guitar Wolf, Billy Childish, Boxhamsters, A.F.I., Disassociate, Jack Kevorkian & The Suicide Machines, Sound Bite House, Boston Archives, The Trashwomen, Violent Society, Hellbillys, No Demuestra Interes, Spider Babies, "Roots Of Punk: Chess, Sun, etc".

#143/Apr '95. Vindictives, Stinkerbell, Jesus Christ Superfly, New Day, Registrators, Youth Brigade, Pit, "True Crime", "Roots Of Punk--The Northwest Sound".

#145/June '95. Conflict, No Empathy, Tina Age 13, Screw 32, The Harries, The Rejects, Bob Cutler, Badger, "Roots Of Punk--MC5", "The Cartoons Of Ted Rall".

#146/July '95. Riverdales, Head, Bristles, Aut Aut, Schleprock, Spanakorzo, McRackins, Y.A.P.O., 10-96, Empress Of Fur, Underhand, Nailed Down.

#148/Sept '95. Adversives, Thorazine, Toe Rag Studios, Scott Radinsky, Wizo, Bollocks, Shitworkers, Opposition Party, Moody Jackson, Opcion Crucial, Rebel Rebel, Teen Idols, Soda Jerks, Walking Ruins, "Roots Of Punk--The Sixties Pt 1".

#149/Oct '95. Manic Hispanic, Pet UFO, Campus Tramps, Joe Kidd, Bad Luck Streak, Chumpslap, The Humpers, No Violence, Diferentes Actitudes, Juveniles, Richard the Roadie, "Roots Of Punk--The Sixties Pt 2".

#152/Jan '96. Assfort, Turbonegro, Junior, Compound Fracture, Murder Junkies, Bottomfeeders, Battalion Of Saints, Heartbreakers, Florida Scum Pitt.

#153/ Feb '96. Snort, Hatchetface, Little Ugly Girls, A.D.Z., Oxymoron, N.O.T.A., Stun Guns, Gutfiddle, Karen Monster, Dimestore Haloes, "Uncle Sam & The Swastika".

#154/Mar '96. The Motards, Subincision, Stisism, The Donnas, The Stallions, Count Backwurds, Crunch, Final Warning, "Roots Of Punk--Instrumental R'n'R", "Roots Of Punk--The Damed".

#155/ Apr '96. Third Degree, Pussy Crush, Surfin' Turnips, Sickoids, Anti-Flag, Slight Slappers, High Plains Drifters, Cro-Mags, Hockey Teeth, "The Knights Of Malta".

#156 pt 2/May '96. Australian Special: Beanflipper, Melancholy, Blitz Babiez, Crank, SubRosa, Mindsnare, T.M.T., H-Block, B-Sides, Fallout, Frenzal Rhomb, Lawnsmell, One Inch Punch, Chickenshit, No Deal, Ussue 1, Clint Walker.

#157/Jun '96. Against All Authority, The Criminals, Wardance, Heroines, Brain Bats, Rudiments, Chinese Millionaires, Sons Of Hercules, Your Mother, Yellow Scab, "Roots of Punk--Sham 69".

#158/July '96. Workin' Stiffs, The Gain, Ashley Von Hurter & The Haters, The Process, Brother Inferior, Judge Nothing, Breakups, Not For Rent, "Roots of Punk--The Buzzcocks".

#159/Aug '96. The Smugglers, Brand New Unit, Tone Deaf Pig-Dogs, Round Ear Spocks, David Hayes of Very Small Records, Man Afraid, Blind Side, Vox Populi, Death Wish Kids, Fun People, Fat Drunk & Stupid, "Roots of Punk--The Dickies".

#160/Sept '96. The Automatics, Boycot, Toast, Morning Shakes, The Mormons, John Q Public, Sex Offenders, Ballgagger, The Business, Apocalypse Babys, Good Riddance, Russia update, "Roots of Punk--Eater".

#161/Oct '96. Jet Bumpers, Steel Miners, Divisia, Lopo Drido, Red #9, Nothing Cool, Sink, Sires, Newtown Grunts, "Roots of Punk--Ohio '77".

#162/Nov '96. Phantom Surfers, Candy Snatchers, The Stain, National Guard, Torches To Rome, Restos Fosiles, Two Bo's Maniacs, Snuka, Redemption 87, Torture Kitty, "Roots of Punk--Los Angeles '77".

#164/Jan '97. Naked Aggression, Lil' Bunnies, Sparkle Moore, Tab Hunter, Bar Feeders, Jabberwocky, Auto Control, The Hookers, Epileptix, Acrid, "Roots of Punk--The Vibrators", "Ten Years Of Gilman".

#165/ Feb '97. He's Dead Jim, The Millionaires, No-Talents, Blanks 77, The Hives, The Freeze, Chris Spedding & Other People's Music, Defiance, The Real MacKenzies, Savage Malignant, Sea Monsters, Dropkick Murphys, Bou Sou Nezumi, "Roots of Punk--Richard Hell".

#166/Mar '97. Walking Abortions, Hickey, '77 Spreads, Sanity Assassins, Cards In Spokes, Joey Tampon & The Toxic Shocks, Adjective Noun, Suicide King, Lenguas Armadas, Trauma, De Crew, "Roots of Punk--Dead Boys".

#167/Apr '97. No Fraud, Nobodys, Sloppy Seconds, The Forgotten, Thee Viceroys, Brian of Grand Theft Audio, Gauze, Danko Jones, "Roots of Punk--Kuro".

#168/May '97. Cretin 66, Fishsticks, UK Subs, Distemper, Enewetak, Fields Of Shit, "Roots of Punk--SLF, Undertones".

#169/June '97. Hard Skin, Cluster Bomb Unit, Jihad, Purgen, Speed Queens, Remission, Halflings, The Old Man, Deface, "Roots of Punk--Clash, Ramones, Sex Pistols".

#170/July '97. Bristle, Mine, Tedio Boys, The 4 Cockroaches, Absconded, Meanwhile. Broken, (Young) Pioneers, Hoodrat, "You're Dead!", "Roots of Punk--The Slits".

#171/Aug '97. Strychnine, Idiots, Patrick Grindstaff of Pelado Records, Misanthropists, Racetraitor, Violent Society, Knuckleheads.

#172/Sept '97. Withdrawls, Judgement, No Motiv, Oppressed Logic, Truents, Left For Dead, Yellowskin, The Weird Lovemakers, Smash Your Face, Flatus, Straight Faced, Klaxon, X-It, web designer Vic Gedris, filmmaker Doug Cawker.

#173/Oct '97. Hot Water Music, Fat Day, Los Tigres Guapos, Les Partisans, The Bristols, My 3 Scum, The Space Shits, Chris of Pessimiser Records, The Reclusives, Nick Qwik, "Pioneers of Punk: GG Allin".

#174/Nov '97. Stratford Mercenaries, Lickity Split, Bladder, Piss Shivers, Barnhills, In/Humanity, theme issue: Education.

#175/Dec '97. One Man Army, Those Unknown, Boiling Man, Piao Chong, Exploding Crustaceans, Last Year's Youth, Heartdrops, Dirty Burds, Dimestore Haloes, "Pioneers of Punk: The Henchmen", Filmmaker Lech Kowalski.

#176/Jan '98. The Wongs, Jon Cougar Concentration Camp, Voorhees-Stalingrad-Armed With Anger, Upstairs People, Squidboy, Izgoy, Beltones, Scared Of Chaka, 1-4-5's, Ducky Boys, Skygrain, "Roots of Punk--Siouxsie & The Banshees, "Infoshops".

#177/Feb '98. Superfly TNT's, Submachine, Dropout, Society Gone Madd, Pinhead Circus, Ann Beretta, Blackbird, Naive, Useless I.D., Quarantine, "Roots of Punk--Generation X.

#178/Mar '98. Forgotten Rebels, The Dirtys, Josh Collins, The Letterbombs, Go-Devils/Gyogun Rend's/Room 41, Tone Deaf Pig-Dogs, American Steel, "Economics theme issue".

#179/April '98. Boy Sets Fire, Tres Kids, Idyls, Spat & The Guttersnipes, The Posers, Explosive Kate, Douche Flag, They Still Make Records, "Pioneers of Punk--Dangerhouse Records".

TO BOOK OR NOT TO BOOK...

Looks like the answer is not to book, at least this year.

Many people felt that BYOFL had outlived its usefullness and was being abused. Many others felt it was still quite helpful for bands and labels. But since nobody actually came forward and said they wanted responsibility for typing in all the listings, proofing them and organizing them for eventual layout, plus doing the mailorder on it, we declined as well.

We'll see next year if a responsible bunch of people or existing organization is ready to come forward and whether there's a strong enough grassroots call for another edition. If you're so inclined, send us a letter staing what your resouces are (in terms of computers and typing personnel) and why you'd like to share the job with us in 1999.

WANNA SEND US SOMETHING?!

Scene Reports: PUNK'S NOT DEAD! It's happening out there and MRR readers want to hear about it! Hi! My name is Jenn and I input and edit the scene reports that come in. MRR relies on you scenesters out there to keep the pulse of what's happening in your town, write up something fun and interesting about it, and send it in to MRR. Photos and artwork are mandatory. Tell us about local bands, zines, and cool and uncool venues. Include info for travelling punks (non-US scene reports are especially welcome!) such as where to find cheap veggie eats, record stores, and strong coffee. Has your punk scene spawned any communally-run enterprises such as show spaces, cafes or record stores? Are racist or homophobic thugs threatening your scene's harmony? Enquiring punk minds want to know! See details below for format info.

Interviews: Boy, is MRR ever looking to improve the quality of our interviews (which shouldn't be hard!) We'd like to get a staff of reliable people across the country and around the world who could turn in some good, probing interviews on a semi-regular basis. We're looking for people who already have some experience doing interviews (perhaps you have your own zine and would like to share some of your best stuff with a wider audience), who can challenge bands (I know, I know, most bands don't have squat to say, but a good interviewer can take them where they haven't been before!) or give some long overdue support for those behind-the-scenes types who do an awful lot of the hard work in punk rock but get little of the ego or monetary rewards. Please give us a call if you are interested in covering new hardcore, punk or garage bands.

Formats for submitting stuff? We prefer things typed up on a 3 1/2" computer disk, either Mac (preferred) or IBM. Please don't type in ALL CAPS! If you can't access a computer, then typed up cleanly on paper should work, as long as it's in a fairly common and straightforward font. Graphic stuff? Send photos (B&W preferred, but color OK too), logos, etc. Thanks

Records/zines? See detailed information listed on the mastheads of the Record Review and Zine Review sections.

BACK ISSUE SALE: For every three you purchase, you get a fourth one free!!
Please list alternates in case we're out of a particular issue. Price list is on previous page.

Beach Recordings
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CDs are 7$ ea.

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Torn Apart

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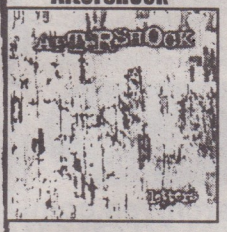

Letters CD

Nothing Is Permanent

"Think brutal straight edge metalcore as if Overcast & Earth Crisis had a bastard child (AFTERSHOCK) who was from New York. If you dig this style, don't miss out on this." - Very

MAKE-UP

PHOTO ©1988 PAUL DRAKE

Records & Stuff We Sell:

114. **MAKE-UP**	'Blue is Beautiful', a film by James Schneider on video. VHS or PAL	VIDEO ONLY	Ⓔ
113. **MAKE-UP**	'In Mass Mind'		* Ⓒ
111. **BLUETIP**	2-song 7"		Ⓐ
112. SMART WENT CRAZY	'Con Art'		* Ⓒ
109. HAPPY GO LICKY	21 live songs from '87-'88	CD ONLY	Ⓔ
108. AUTOCLAVE	11-song posthumous CD, all previously released.	CD ONLY	Ⓓ
107. BRANCH MANAGER	'Anything Tribal'		* Ⓒ
106. LUNGFISH	'Indivisible'		* Ⓒ
105. MAKE-UP	Recorded Live at the Fine China in London 'After Dark'		* Ⓒ
101. BLUETIP	'Dischord No. 101'		* Ⓒ
90. FUGAZI	'Red Medicine'		†* Ⓒ
50. SKEWBALD	(Also known as Grand Union) Now available on CD		†† Ⓐ
40. MINOR THREAT	CD has every song!		Ⓔ
14. DISCHORD 1981	Teen Idles, Minor Threat SOA, GI$, Youth Brigade		Ⓓ
13. MARGINAL MAN	'Identity' EP reissue CD	CD ONLY	Ⓖ

*regular CD, price Ⓓ / †Cassette, price Ⓒ / ††CD single, price Ⓖ

NEW Price Guide, including postage, in U.S. $:

		U.S.A.	SURFACE & CANADA	Airmail
Ⓐ	7"	3.50	4.50	6.50
Ⓒ	LP	8.00	10.00	13.00
Ⓓ	CD	9.00	10.00	12.00
Ⓔ	MaxiCD	11.00	12.00	14.00
Ⓖ	CD single	4.00	5.00	7.00

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DISCHORD records

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THE INFECTED 'DISASTER'
THE IDIOTS 'S/T'
HORSHACKS 'JEREMY'S DRUNK
DISGRUNTLED NATION 'S/T'
IN OUR DEFENSE 'REJECTED'
MIDDLE FINGER RESPONSE 'S/T'
SUBURBAN REFUGEE 'KILL...'
JAMES RIVER SCRATCH 'S/T'
WHITE TRASH DEB "ROCK ON...
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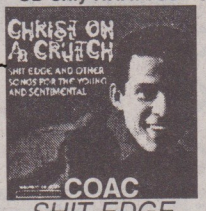

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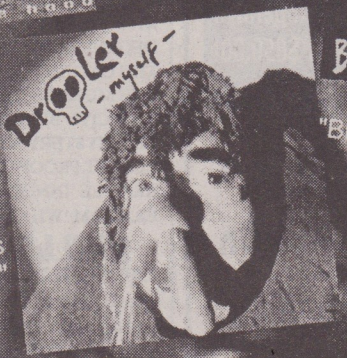

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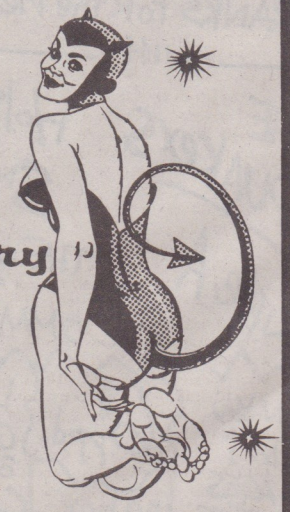

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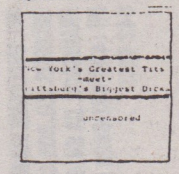

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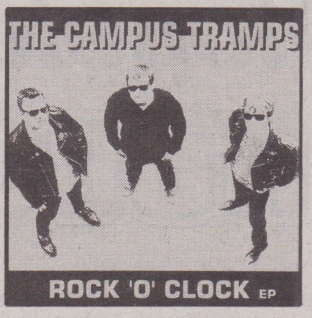
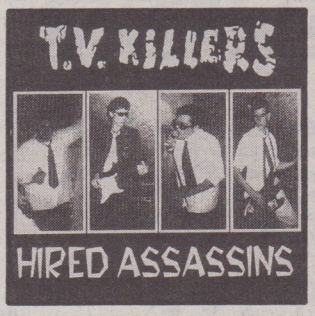


THE CAMPUS TRAMPS-7"



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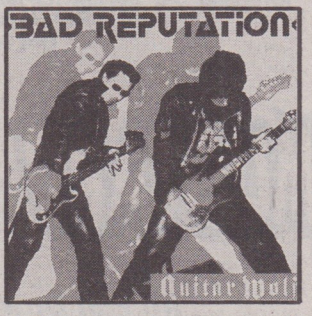

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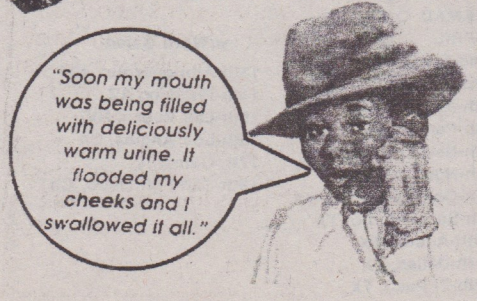

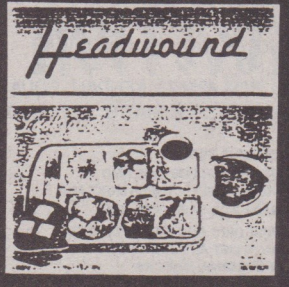

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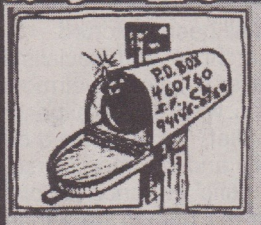


To whom it may concern,

My heart almost sank when I read "To book or not to book..." in MRR #176. I felt the need to throw in my 2 cents when you raised the question of whether or not *Book Your Own Fucking Life* remains a necessary tool for independent bands or not. In my opinion, *BYOFL* is not only a useful tool for bands, it's like the yellow pages of the "punk" community.

I put on shows in Homewood, IL, a place that I'm sure most people outside the good old Land of Lincoln haven't heard of. We have our share of failures, but usually it is a great place to play. Almost all of the touring bands that I have booked got a hold of me through my ad for "No Productions" in *BYOFL*. *A lot* of people really rely on this resource to do what they do. If it wasn't for this little book, I would have never met some of my dearest friends. I'm sure I'm not the only one who feels this way.

As far as the idea of just making an on-line web site... AOLfuck that.com! It's just not fair. I'm not going to go off on a huge anti-internet rant, because I'm sure it's good for a lot of things, but you have to remember that a large number of us don't have computers. I myself can't really afford one. Besides, you can get so much info on the internet anyway. I would be willing to bet that a majority of the people who use *BYOFL* use it because it is one of the few resources that they have access to. By putting it on the internet, you would be taking it away from most of the people who use it.

I know I'm doing a lot of moaning without offering much help. If I had the resources to help put out *BYOFL* #7, I would. But I don't, so I can't. If anybody out there is considering taking on the task of doing it, but isn't sure if it's worth it, trust me, it's well worth it. As far as the short time factor, it's not the end of the world if it's not out on April 15th. I'm sure most of us aren't worried about when it comes out, so long as it does come out. Thanks for listening,
Andy Cline/ PO Box 270/ Peotone, IL 60468

Dear Maximum,

I'm writing to offer some input on the BYOFL web site. It's a great idea, and if it's done correctly, will be better than any printed version. But when considering how to go about it, you should try to keep it as decentralized as possible. This is great because it not only gives local and/or state scenes more direct control over what goes on their respective pages, it also makes it a hell of a lot easier on the people who run the BYOFL home page. This would also help keep things more up-to-date, because when a band breaks up it would be simpler and easier for a state or local BYOFL page to delete their entry than for a centralized page all the way across the country. And hey, no offense, but I'd rather people here in Mississippi run a Mississippi page than some people over in San Francisco. I also think that such pages should be only linked to the BYOFL home page. For example, I could have a page on my web site on Geocities linked to the BYOFL home page, and on there could be all the listings for the state of Mississippi. Someone who does the listings for Alabama might have his/hers on Angelfire.

Another thing about this idea is that it could also list things such as upcoming events and shows. If there's going to be a punkfest in North Carolina, it would be much easier for someone in North Carolina to post it than someone who lives on the west coast. Also, such decentralized pages could have cool stuff like pictures, and practical stuff like maps and directions, which could be really useful for touring bands.

Of course, as with any idea, this plan has some disadvantages. For example, personal conflicts could affect who is listed. If someone in Band X offends the person who maintains the local BYOFL page, that band might mysteriously disappear from the page. I guess there should be some rules involved, but like I said the idea's not perfect. But overall, I think the advantages of this idea far outweigh the disadvantages. Thanks for your time. Take care, and good luck, whatever you do.
Greg Pseudonymous/ PO Box 1235/ Greenwood, MS 38935-1235/ gpseudon@hotmail.com

MRR,

I've heard the rumor floating around that 1998 will not produce another issue of BYOFL. Now obviously I'm disappointed, but I guess I'm not stepping up to make it a reality either.

Anyway, what I'm writing about is that I run a website (it's the 90's, who doesn't...) that is similar to BYOFL and is free for bands to use. I would be more than happy to field any submissions for BYOFL and put them up on my website (http://www.musicianassist.com). Now, this site is NOT 100% DiY punk—it is not exclusive to any genre—it's just here to try to help anyone who makes music, regardless of style or ethos. Again, the site is free to access and free to submit information to (I accept just about all the same info the BYOFL publishes: Places To Play, Places to Stay, Promoters, Bands who trade shows, Places to Eat, Zines, Record Stores/Distros, Radio, Studios, Record Labels, CD/Cassette/Record Pressers, Silk Screeners, Patch Makers, etc.) and I would be happy to publish the info on my site and make it available to the community. Anyone who would like to submit information, please send it: via email: maskeeper@aol.com; via mail: Maskeeper/ PO Box 1634/ Kent, Ohio 44240. Happy to help,
Vince Maskeeper

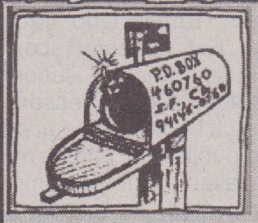
MRR readers,

I want to thank you for reading—and MRR for printing—my guest column in issue #176. I've received some positive feedback from some of you that I know. This letter is intended as a brief follow-up to the column. Obviously, there is a plethora of information on Tourette Syndrome out there, you just have to be willing to seek it out in order to learn. I encourage all of you to do so. Also, I mentioned medications in my column. At the time, I had just been diagnosed and was anxious to try anything which might make my life better. My mind was overtaxed and my judgment cloudy. I took the pills for about 5 weeks, then I threw them away. I was drug-free before, and I like being that way again. Knowing the name for my condition, learning about its nuances, reading about others like me—these things have helped me. I stress now, as I did in my column, that the pills I took were not of the thought-control variety, like Prozac. I'm thankful for that. Still, they messed with my mind and I didn't like that. They altered my blood pressure, which changed the flow of blood to my brain. That made me tired and lightheaded all of the time. If you have a condition like TS, OCD, depression, or anything else where pills are routinely shoved into your hand with a smile, remember this: you don't have to take them. Find your strengths and showcase them, instead. Have fun. Listen to Trial, Los Crudos, or Zoinks! Read a zine. Write a zine. Just don't give up. Thanks,
Tim Schwader

Dear F.Y.P fans or anyone else,

On Wednesday, Jan.14, Joseph Mario Ciauri aka Stoots took his own life by jumping off Pt. Fermin, or also known as Sunken City. You might find that hard to believe due to the fact that a) Joe was way too happy, if you've ever been around him and/or b) the fake "Jed death", our last bass player, which was too obvious that it was a joke, but some people did actually believe it.

Letters



Believe me I'd give anything to make this a stupid joke.

If you saw Joe and F.Y.P play live you would know how much he made the band 100% better, the most compliments I've ever heard about this band was when Joe joined the band and how much he made us "untouchable." He made me and Sean more excited to do the band than ever, he actually saved it from breaking up, in Nov. of 1996 when he joined. Making our last record is the best thing that I will ever have the chance to do. He was so excited while doing it, which made me and Sean the most thrilled we've been in a recording studio. Even after living in a van for months straight, together on the road, the day after we got back we would be hanging out together, he wasn't just a member of the band. Everyone loved him, he was too good.

His mom requests anyone who had any good memories about him or would like to say anything positive about Joe to email her at: SherGilber@aol.com (Sheryl Gilbert)

I know I shouldn't even have to say this but this is not the time to voice your punk rock opinion about us being "sell-outs, rockstars" etc. unless you mean it in a good way, because Joe was the best rockstar in the world, he'd have wanted me to tell you all that.

Also the FYPmail@aol.com will be up for a little bit longer, and we would love to hear from you, but the band, obviously, is no longer. The recesspoo@aol.com will remain. There will also be pictures/ stories about him continuously on our site. Love,
Todd Congelliere/ FYP

Dear MRR:

I wrote this letter at a Bomb reunion show my friend Eggplant took me to. Thanks Robert.

Hey punks, there have been some really messed up rumors about me over the last year and a half. So I'll lay out my personal life right here. The truth is, in my entire fucking life I have only had sexual intercourse with three people. 3. And twice I was passive, a bottom (a dick in my ass, get it?). If anyone in the Bay Area, or the US or the world can corroborate differently, then I will admit to all the rumors, lies and accusations. I have kissed, flirted, made out, tried to manipulate, crossed boundaries and even given head, but I fucking understand the word NO. I had a messed up childhood and abusive stepdad which isn't an excuse but did have an effect on how I relate with others. But I have changed a lot over the past year, and have realized much about myself and most importantly respect for others. So punk needs to either reject me or accept me, but stop persecuting me and my friends. Jeff Ott, you have admitted raping two women, and the things you have done to other people over the past 10 years are disgusting. The way you throw around the word "rape" for a moral crusade against me and say I've raped 6 people or 21 people, or whatever your last number is, makes me believe you haven't changed at all. People say things about me from I'm "cool," to "he's weird" to an "asshole" and even "he's so fucked up," but it's not spelled R-A-P-E. So fuck you Jeff, find one person to contradict me. Be accountable. I've been with 3 people. That's all.
Jux

PS For the messed up relationship I had 5 years ago, and my close friend I have hurt, I am so sorry.

Dear MRR,

First off this is second to a letter I've already sent this month via Mykel, anyway, if you wanna add this bit on then I'd appreciate it.
In response to the Race Traitor letter in MRR #177.

Before I start, I'll say that I read an interview with Race Traitor in *HeartattaCk* a while ago and it was very perceptive and insightful, but what the *fuck*—I didn't realize there was *religion* masquerading behind the facade!

"...or get *ultra* defensive when someone tries to offer a solution that is not compatible with their attachments to habits erosive to any community...(drugs, alcohol, promiscuity, etc. etc.)"

Jesus shit!!! I can't believe Tim didn't address this point. I mean drugs and *especially* alcohol *do* damage *certain* people's relationships and *possibly* the wider community but *promiscuity????* Could someone please tell me how that ever fucking harmed anyone? (I'm referring to people with a high enough I.Q. to use contraception) People need to take more responsibility over their lives, but the last thing we need is *more oppression*, even less so when it masquerades under the name of 'punk.'

What the fuck is *Allah* if not a false idol??? I mean why is Dan so special that he can see the universal truth of life, and see through not only Christianity but also radical ideologies when all the rest of us poor folk can't. *Nobody* knows who 'created' the earth, even if 'someone' did, not even you Dan. What you believe is simply that: a belief, it is *subjective*. Jesus Christ, Mohammed, David Koresh, Jim Jones, what's the difference, they're all just fucking loonies who wanted people to worship them and over time it's all been distorted.

As for anarchists and socialists providing 'materialist' solutions, well most of them are atheists, what do you expect? Atheism isn't a 'belief,' it's just based on scientific rationality and common sense, there's more 'scientific' evidence to point to aliens creating the human race than any 'divine creator', after all, *we* could do the same now if we wished.

Ideologies all lead to violence if they don't specifically define the extent of individual freedom explicitly, and are prepared to compromise, be they religious ideologies or otherwise, from abortion doctors being murdered to Stalinist death camps to clitorodechtomies (no prizes for guessing which 'ideology' I'm referring to there).

This letter may seem a bit reactionary but it's just that these people who think that if we all stopped getting wasted and having casual sex and basically *enjoying ourselves* then we'd all live in a perfect world really piss me off. What the fuck next, letters from the *Christian Coalition????*
Steven Jon Hewitt/ <sc6she@zen.sunderland.ac.uk>

Dear MRR,

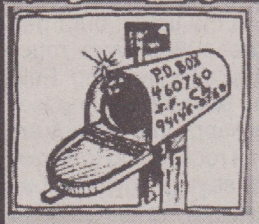
My name is Chloe and I do a zine called *Revulsion*. It focuses on women's issues, ecofeminism, dyke pride and motorcycles. Yes, motorcycles. I thought I'd give a little shameless plug as I am getting ready to print issue #2, which I will send to you eventually.

My main reason for writing you is to put you on the alert for a racist band from Vancouver called the Dunderheads. I received their new 7", "Home Invasion" for review in my zine, and I must say I was disturbed at the imagery found within.

First off, home invasions are becoming a terrifying problem in our city, and I don't think a song, let alone a whole fucking 7" dedicated to glorifying them is even funny. If this is a joke, it's a terrible one.

If it is serious, (from what I've heard about their singer, Mark Dunderhead, it is) then I think this band should be treated the same way we treat bands like Skrewdriver, Odin's Law, and Guns 'n' Roses. Here's a sample of their lyrical prowess: "Home invasion, we're gonna kick you in the face / Home invasion, gonna wreck the fuckin' place / If the wife don't like it, we'll show her her place / Home invasion, home invasion (oi! oi! oi!)"

Considering that the main victims of home invasions in Vancouver have been elderly women, and also the line "show her her place," this should show the prevailing attitude towards women in



Dunderland.

I will remind the thirty-something punx like myself out there that Skrewdriver were once a straight Oi/Rock band with no obvious racist tendencies, they even toured with the Police! The Dunderheads have been rolling around Vancouver for about four years now and have never showed any overt racist tendencies before, either. But I was shocked to read the chorus to the b-side of this single, "Stabbed in the Back." I will spare you the rest of the lyrics as they are just pure meatheaded Nazi trash: "The kike, the jap, they stabbed me in the back / The chink, the pak [Pakistani/East Indian], they stabbed me in the back."

Now considering that Mark Dunderhead is an immigrant to our country himself (England), he shouldn't be making statements like these. Our city has a diverse cultural makeup, and that should not be fought. These people of color are good people and should not be abused by narrow-minded, violent cretins such as the Dunderheads. Thanks for listening, and fight Nazi bullshit always.

Chloe Revulsion/ *Revulsion* zine

RMRR,

Hi, my name is Becca, and I'm writing to you to let you know about something that I really disagree with. I just recently found out about money that, in the past, me and many others like me have spent that a good portion of has gone to something that me and many others may not stand for or believe in. Up until now my money had gone to this without my knowledge. You see, here's the deal, I'm talking about money spent to buy pizza. I used to order from Domino's Pizza out of convenience, yes because sometimes I'm too lazy to make it myself. Well, now I have two major problems with Domino's, first Domino's is a large and well known corporation, which goes against any DIY standards any of us might have. Yes as I said, I have ordered from them in the past, but most of the time I like to direct my money towards food from smaller self-owned establishments. Now I know that sometimes I'm going to have to buy from something corporate, I'm not so DIY that I'm going to make my own toothpaste, but when I find a good reason to boycott something I'm going to stand behind it. I know you're probably saying, "Becca what the hell are you talking about, what's the point?" Well, you see, I just recently found out from a friend of mine that Domino's contributes money to something that I don't believe in. And if you've ever spent money there that means that it's your money too. I'm pro-choice. I believe that it's my body and that some one else should have no form of control over that. Don't get me wrong, I'm not saying that people should run around having abortions all the time either, and you're still probably wondering what my point is. Well, Domino's contributes a certain amount of its proceeds, in short, your money if you ever buy from them, to pro-life. Now we're not told this when we buy a pizza from them, we're left to find this out for ourselves. I think that if my money is going towards something like this that I should at least be told about it. If you buy say a pack of candy and a portion of the money is going towards cancer research, they tell you, and they're proud of it. So what's the deal, why does Domino's feel that they shouldn't have to tell us? I feel that this is utterly wrong, so I have taken it upon myself to spread the word through my zine and others, if you are pro-choice or at least stand for what you believe in, then please spread the word to your friends, or anyone, boycott Domino's. Feel free to write me and tell me your knowledge or opinion of this.

Dare St. Productions c/o Becca/ 2706 Dare St./ Wilmington, NC 28412

Becca,

A few years ago Domino's was in the news when it was publicized that their president (I think) had kicked down $50,000 to Wisconsin Right To Life. (Domino's is or was based out of the Dairy State.)The p.r. people tried to play it off as a personal decision on his part and not company policy. I agree with you, why give your money to someone like that?

But also, you gotta understand that companies are only gonna publicize where they're putting their money if they think it's going to get them favorable publicity. Anything even slightly controversial is going to be done behind the scenes. So they might tell you the money's going for cancer research, but if money is also going to a pro-life group or anti-environmental lobbying or whatever, you won't know. Basically be extremely cynical and suspicious about any large corporation's claims of benevolence. Jeff M.

Dear Maximum Rocknroll,

Let me respond to Jessica Allen's letter in #173. You are very misinformed, $3.00 a day in prison, try 12¢ a hour unless you work in UNICOR you can make up to $1.15 an hour (I stress can). I personally make $15.00 a month, enough to buy some cigarettes. Luckily I have people on the outside looking out for me.

You'd like the prison officials to take away the tv, the education programs, the recreational programs, etc... Well fuck tv and as for the classes, here I'll list them all real quick: the G.E.D. program, E.S.L., basic math, basic spelling, WordPerfect, plumbing, and carpentry. Oh boy I can be a plumber, or work for $5.25 at a temp job, or I can be a carpenter.

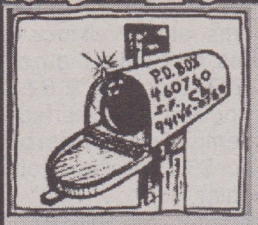
Prisons, defined by the Bureau of Prisons, are for reform not punishment. It wouldn't matter what they had to offer me here. I haven't seen my family in two years 'cause I'm from the west coast. I can't skateboard and I can't go to the beach, I can't go anywhere. Then there's sex. There are no conjugal visits in the feds. It's not natural but if you're gay I guess it's not so bad. As for recreation unless you're into basketball, baseball, or football there is nothing for you. You don't have to worry about us swelling up anymore because they took all the weights out of federal prison thanks to the Zimmerman Act passed 2 years ago. A few prisons still have them—U.S.P.s, maximum securities, people with 100 years, life, double life, etc! Who better damn well have their weights or they'll make Attica look like a fucking tea party.

I'm in prison because someone said I knew about a drug deal and that I drove my friend to a deal. I was never caught with any drugs. The government had no evidence at all, just two snitches' word who were facing 30 years, so they plea bargained. It's called a 5.K.I assistance to the government. No one goes to trial anymore unless they're facing life or some crazy number of years. But I went to trial, I got 90 months or 7 1/2 years. The two rats who were caught with 2,000 hits of LSD, one got no time or probation, the other got 33 months and is out now selling again. He knows he does not have to worry about ever doing some real time 'cause he could always sell someone out to the government. The government can do this to anyone, anywhere. It's called conspiracy to distribute drugs

But on UNICOR it is basically slave labor. The most you can make is $1.15 an hour building stuff for the military. It's big business. Agencies like the DEA or FBI are like recruiters. What do they do when they can't catch anyone doing a crime or when there is no crime? They make one up. They have and will again and again.

The mainstream media doesn't cover this hardly ever. You might see a little piece on 60 Minutes about the Philly cops framing people but on the same show they show Oklahoma Federal Transfer Center and act like it's a damn hotel.

It is common knowledge that every mainstream media company like ABC, NBC, CBS, CNN, the *New York Times,* etc. has a member of the government working there. It might be the CIA or any other agency and they will make sure



what the government doesn't want you to hear, you won't. For example how many people out there heard of the 1995 riots in federal prison. They were the biggest mass riots in prison in history. Almost all federal prisons rioted when they didn't change the crack law to equal coke as the same drug. Crack is a buzz word used by politicians to gain votes in the disguise of getting tough on crime. Crack used to be called freebase. All it is is rocked cocaine, there is no special crack formula. Sure it might be cut a million times just like any other drug. So what, it is still just cocaine.

Think about this—the government gives so many millions of dollars to the military to build weapons, helicopters, ships, etc. Well UNICOR makes stuff for them and sells their goods at regular high prices, like Rockwell or Lockheed. Now think about it, people who work for Rockwell make 50 to 60 thousand dollars a year at the minimum. An inmate making grade 1 pay, the highest pay, might pull in 200 dollars a month. So all I'm saying is the Bureau of Prison's company UNICOR is making a grip, actually it's in the 100's of millions. Where does all that money go? It sure as hell doesn't go towards buying us some decent meals. I ate better when I was homeless. Also Jeff M. was right about the code word. This place is full of them. They have a fucked up life with little opportunity and it keeps getting worse.

You think giving an 18 year old 5 or 10 years for selling 5 or 10 grams of "crack" is gonna teach him a lesson? Wake the fuck up! People are pissed off. I hear all day in here, people talking about staying strapped 24/7 because they ain't coming back. They got nothing to live for, no future. They will take themselves out and a cop or two with 'em. In the next 5 years you will see mass cop killings and bombs going off because the government is going to far. The only thing that Jessica was right about was there are some evil sick bastards locked up that should have been dead. But if you are found out to be a molester or rapist or some crazy serial killer then you'll have the worst time in prison, you will be most likely robbed continuously, raped, killed. Or you can check in to protective custody like Charles Manson. Look at Jeffrey Dahmer. Regular inmates don't want these motherfuckers around.

Damn I could go on for ever. I need a column for real! But the last thing I want to say to anyone who thinks prison is fun or easy. Go out and rob a bank real quick and live it up in Club Fed.

Justin Davis #40675-198/ FCI Beckley Oak B.U./ P.O.Box 350/ Beaver, WV 25813

P.S. If anyone wants to find out what anyone is locked up for all you have to do is call the Freedom of Information Act in DC and give the person's name and #. You might be writing to a rapist or a child molester.

MRR,

Furious George being searched by the DEA is surprising in that he (George Tabb) allowed it to happen, never consent to a search. And never talk to the cops. The 4th amendment protects from unreasonable search and seizure. If you say no they will just back off. Just say no.

Mike Lawless

Mike,

The 4th Amendment protects you, in theory... In reality, the cops decide what happens. It is a good idea not to consent unless you are 110% sure you are clean. If you consent and the cops "find" anything, you have a lot less hope of having the evidence thrown out when you see a judge. But yeah, avoid talking to the cops when you can. Contact the A.C.L.U. or a local copwatch organization for more info. Jeff M.

Dear MRR,

Living in the 80's. Yes, it's true, many of us over 30 punx are still stuck in the 1980's. It was such a wonderful time for punk/hardcore/thrash. We had godlike bands BGK, Crucifix, Discharge, Raw Power, and tons of others that blow away anything out today. We had kids from all over the world putting out compilation tapes and selling them at a price that only paid the postage. It seem like almost everyone was doing it. To share music with others worldwide. You could go to shows and see a handful, two handfuls of bands for a couple of bux and didn't have to be 21 to get in. We were stared at when we walked into a store, we were beaten up at school. Yes that was the '80s. It was a great time and will never be forgotten. Also when I got my nose pierced twice, and had a "flaming bat" tattooed on the side of my head and charged my foot and a half green mohawk, that was kinda shocking even to the punk community in the early '80s. Now I don't think anything is shocking or weird. You have "*MTV Brats*" with nose, tongue, eyebrow piercing's with dyed hair, that don't even claim to have anything to do with punk rock.

I do like lots of the new bands like Diskonto, Hellkrusher, Cluster Bomb Unit, Crunch, Dekadent and many others... But they all play '80s style HC/thrash. I just like that style a lot more than the power violence/ grindcore/ crust.

I will roll with the times, but I personally believe the 1980s were much better. I wrote this after reading Felix Havoc column and seen how some kids were offended. I'm happy that the kids are still kicking out punk rock, going to shows and such. I'm not saying anything bad about you, I'm just saying things were different then and that's why some of us are trying to hang on to the '80s.

Jason Crusher/ Seattle, WA/ razorstyk@aol.com

Adam/MRR,

First of all I want to say that overall you're *all* doing a killer job.

Second, I'd like to comment on your review of the "V.M.Live presents Agent Orange" EP. I'm sure you're right on with the sound and quality of the EP. Your speculation of what they have become is a little off. I'm sure Mike Palm and company can speak for themselves but it bugs me when I see good bands getting ripped on.

I've seen Agent Orange several times over the years, most recently in October (?). I have seen a lot of big shows and I can honestly say Agent Orange puts on one of the best performances you can see (still.) Their last full length, "Virtually Indestructible", was put out by themselves. I can't tell you who the distributes it or if there even is a distributor but I doubt they're making much off it.

Anyway, before you start talking shit—go check them out first. Or stick to the reviews without the bullshit speculation.

Steve Rocha/ PO Box 2861/ Silverdale, WA 98383

Steve,

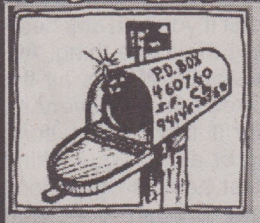
I'm glad to hear that Agent Orange put out their own album. But I think the reason why they are not making much money off it is because nobody cares about them anymore. Not to mention any of thier new stuff. Agent Orange was a great punk band and contrary to what you'd like to believe, I have seen Agent Orange several times myself. And I always feel jipped when I leave unless the opening acts are good. Bottom line Steve, Agent Orange are tired and slowing down. They don't have the punch anymore. I admit, it will be sad to see them go. But I think it's even sadder to see them trying to hang on. And hey man, that wasn't bullshit speculation. That was opinion.

Adam.

Dear MRR,

I'm writing in regard to a comment Anne R. Key wrote in her last "Talk Talk" column. She wrote: Bombshelter bit the

Letters



dust, yeah big deal. Where'd ya hear that, Anne? The Bombshelter didn't bite the dust. It is relocating to a better neighborhood. Next time, you should Talk Talk to a more reliable source.

Heaven forbid you actual contact someone involved with the Bombshelter. And what's with that animosity in your tone? Why would you have been happy if the Bombshelter had closed? There certainly isn't an abundance of "all ages drug and alcohol free five dollar shows" clubs around.

There is only one other here in the Bay Area, Gilman, and they supported the Bombshelter completely. Maybe you're right though, Anne. It's better for kids to stay home and play video games on the weekends. Live bands are such a waste of time. Why dance when you can watch T.V.? Why try and do something productive when you can just write columns? Fuck the whole D.I.Y thing, it's more fun to watch clubs close and bands break up and scenes fall apart.

I must say, however, that I was thrilled to see the last scene report in MRR focused on hardcore. Not to knock you, but I'm surprised you printed it. It seems like the cool thing to do is hate the local hardcore (like Anne apparently does). Thank you for giving us space in your (regardless of my criticisms) great magazine. I've always supported MRR, thanks for supporting us. Remember: Hardcore kids are people too. Have you hugged your local hardcore kid today? Love,
Sammy The Mick

P.S. When the Bombshelter reopens, Anne, you've always got a spot on the guest list.

Sammy, we've never not printed a scene report because it featured hardcore bands. (And I hugged a Bombshelter patron yesterday!) —Chris

Anne R. Key-

Hey you shit, no one gets "kicked out of" the Lil Bunnies (especially for fucking a midjit). They get killed. K.I.L.L.E.D. You got that?
Benitio Bunnie

PS There is no "Dave" in the Lil Bunnies you shit.

MRR / readers,

I'm writing in response to Trev's letter in #177 about the Education issue. Although I do agree with his stance on the reviews sections, his ideas on education were extremely ridiculous.

First off, I would hope that education is something that punks are interested in! They can't all be mindless, sex-crazed deviants as Trev is implying. ("How about another sex issue?") Maybe this is true for a lot of punks, but from what I've read/ listened to/ seen, punks are some of the most intelligent people around. So why shouldn't they continue their education? What do you think inspires all the political, social, etc. commentary punk music? People didn't just make this stuff up; they learned about it.

Maybe he's just angry because MRR contains too many big words these days, since he "spent 11 years of [his] life avoiding [education]." This might help explain why he's so mad at something that could stimulate his cobweb-ridden brain cells. As I am a "student wanker," I shouldn't be using my precious wanking time to write this, but "the punks are getting restless." (And I hope it's for something other than sex, beer, and fighting). I may be in the minority here, but I've always assumed that being punk is about learning new ideas, attempting to spread personal beliefs to a wider audience, and telling about political ideologies, but apparently I've missed the mark.

It was also amusing to read about how "the government can do whatever they like, because instead of Crass, etc., telling the youth the truth, encouraging rebellion..." Wow! I had no idea that Crass singlehandedly kept the government from doing whatever they want! That must have been on the history test of checks and balances that I seem to have somehow missed. That must have been the good old days. I suppose he's never heard of bands like Propagandhi "telling youth the truth."

One thing I do sympathize with good ol' Trev about is the labels stealing his hard-earned money. I've had problems with the bigger punk labels in the past, namely Round Flat, Epitaph, and Revelation, so I know how it feels. I've had kids in MRR classifieds rip me off as well, but revenge will soon be had. I wholeheartedly wish Trev the best of luck concerning his missing money and merchandise from these ripoff labels that seem to think they can steal money from whoever they please. If you've been fucked over by a label, tell whoever you can so more people won't share the same losses and the label won't continue to grow on stolen dollars.

I hope I didn't come off as an asshole in this letter, cuz I'm really not. I really do believe that education can improve your life if you educate yourself through the proper channels. As for Trev, I'm sure I'll be receiving a pissed-off letter from him in a week or so, most likely threatening to either fly over from jolly old England to kick my ass or to have his friends in the States kick it for him. Send your angry letter, Trev, but remember, I only fight with pen and paper, my friend, so save your useless threats for another high school kid. Thanks a lot! Sincerely,
Mike Croft/ *OJ Killed Elvis* zine/ 123 Shady Hill Rd./ Apalachin, NY 13732/ USA

Dear Punks of a Political Persuasion,

MRR shitworker Timothy Doran reveals: "...I'm just too burned out from finals..." in his review of a zine called *Dig It* in the most recent issue of MRR (#177). In the same issue of MRR, Mr. Doran's review of *Anarchy: A Journal of Desire Armed* seems to be the hysterical result of stress induced burnout. His anger is palpable.

Although anarchism is an idea whose history is centuries old and very rich, Mr. Doran offers his angry appraisal of anarchism as being both "ridiculous" and "consistent stupidity." Mr. Doran also claims to have "flirted with anarchism as a youth..." It is a shame Mr. Doran didn't get to know anarchism better for he would not be misconstruing anarchism, if he had.

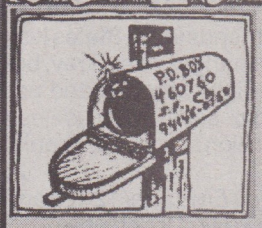
Mr. Doran seems to invite psychoanalysis, when he muses: "...maybe my dad didn't slap me around enough when I was little..." Perhaps, so. Later, Mr. Doran claims not to "...feel existential angst." Psychologists refer to this as denial. All bourgeois folks are in a similar state of denial. This denial of feelings is what allows for the wealth and privileges of the bourgeoisie.

In his review of our *Independent Review of the Nederlands*, in the same issue of MRR, Mr. Doran categorizes the *Amsterdam Chronicle* as hippy/punk. We are proud to have been hippys and we are happy to learn that 10-20% of what is punk is also anarchist. The *Amsterdam Chronicle* is written for both those who are familiar with the history of anarchism, as well as, for those with an open mind.

Although we document our 22 page lead story on fascism in Holland with 47 footnotes and police documents detailing what WWII American propaganda movies described as fascism—spying on people in their homes and public places—Mr. Doran will not use the word fascism until the "genocide" is in the form of gas chambers run by "a corporate state ala Mussolini." He refers to our attempt to alert Americans to fascism in Europe as "at best trite and petulant, and at worst quite dangerous in its failure to draw meaningful distinctions."

Grace Hogan's independent analysis of fascism in Holland makes many carefully drawn distinctions using footnotes and police documents to be precise

Letters



and clear. Your man Doran is flip in the extreme and, furthermore, didn't read our zine.

How is it that man writing for a punk magazine can find it "mysterious" for punks to find fascism (aka authoritarianism or totalitarianism) in most things? Sure now, doesn't punk have it's roots in the anarchist scene in 1970s England? Why doesn't Mr. Doran think it appropriate to observe and criticize the evolving fascism in Europe?

We believe Mr. Doran is a member of the status quo, who poses as a punk. He is among the many middle class folks who seeks to move punk to the reactionary right. This may be inadvertent or intentional. Sincerely,
Grace & Mike Hogan/ *Amsterdam Chronicle*/ Kanaalstraat 66-huis/ 1054 XK Amsterdam/ The Netherlands

Dear Amsterdam Anarchist:

I am a leftist. I am not, however, an anarchist. And you, my friend, are a fruitcake.

My brother's zine, Glossolalia, has been ruthlessly panned every single time it has been reviewed by MRR. Does he whine and complain? Does he write long, stupid letters to MRR containing ad hominem attacks against the persons who reviewed it? No, he grins, bears it, and carries on. Don't be such a puss. I am merely an individual, and I have certain beliefs, based upon my capacity for reason and upon my studies and experience, and if these beliefs really bother you that much (and it is not my place to dispense medical advice, but as you initiated such an exchange with your psychoanalytical mumbo-jumbo, I shall), then perhaps you should consider a vacation to forget, for a bit, your all-consuming "counterculture." Take some time to learn the tango. Read Homer. The Iliad is quite beautiful. Perhaps learn some Bach on the cello. Rent a movie. The latest Les Miserables (1994, I think) is lovely, and it cleverly compares a French Resistance hero's life to the Victor Hugo novel. It even has Fascists in it — you'll like it.

Please do not write any more obnoxious attacks on me, especially with silly Marxist-Freudian-Existentialist-20th-century nonsense in them. Or the next time I'm in Europe, I'll find you and humiliate you in front of your wife and children. I have your address. Mine is 850 Bryant, 7th Floor, San Francisco, California.
Timothy Donald Francis Xavier Doran

P.S. And, yes, I still think that referring to anything you don't like as "Fascism" is inaccurate, dangerous, and ridiculous. Ever hear of the boy who cried "wolf"? And, I think (as do most persons) that anarchism is a beautiful ideal too, in its way - but, especially with representatives of your ilk, it is often so impractical as to be a waste of creative energy. I prefer reform, and the rule of law.

P.P.S. Punk is about being critical. I calls 'em like I sees 'em. And I call a crappy zine a crappy zine.

P.P.P.S. I have laminated your letter (after wiping off the froth from your mouth that fell on it) and posted it on my wall next to an e-mail death threat from a Jehovah's Witness death squad that I received after seducing one of their ranks. Both letters shall be laughed at by myself and my guests for years to come.

Dear readers,

We here at Maximum thought we would take this opportunity to share with you some of the letters that didn't make it into print the first time around because we felt the authors were dumb, yet in their dumbness we found humor. As Voltaire said, "if I laugh at anything, it's so I won't cry." So here are a few dumb/funny letters. Now you know the stuff you're spared most of the time. Jeff M.

PS We try to not edit letters for print in the letters section, though it does sometimes happen. These letters are edited; for brevity, and to highlight the funny parts. Also the perpetrator's address, if provided, has been left off.

Dear MRR,

I recently read the "Talk Talk" column by Mr./Mrs./Ms. Anne R. Key. Since the concept of anarchism is socially acceptable in the punk scene, he/she thought it would be pretty crafty to have a name like that. The irony is that it is a gimpy report of bands that nobody cares about. Anarchy is misunderstood and is mainly associated with blowing up buildings. Destruction has its place, but make sure it hurts big brother not innocent people. Til later,
Max Weinburg and his Max Weinburg 7

To MRR,

I had to write this letter sooner or fucking later. What the hell is this shit of always dumping on skins, oi! music, and oi! zines. Just because you shave your head, buy Docs, and wear braces doesn't make you a skin, it's what's in your heart, and it's a way of life. MRR is a lot of talk, but no action. You're quick to condemn skins, but we are the ones out fighting Nazis, not you. And also in your zine I hear some whiny cunt saying "I hate the brotherhood that skins have, they always try to kick my ass because I'm not a skin." My response to that shit is tough shit if you had any heart you would be doing the same thing. Another thing I hate about MRR is all the damn political correctness. In every oi! record you review if there's one song about fag bashing or aggro you fucking whine and cry. Just because you don't like who they want to bash, does that mean that the music isn't any good. Later plastic punks,
Brett Stout/ postmarked Lynchburg, VA

Dear MRR,

I'm writing in response to the article in the September 96 issue, "Boycott Epitaph." Before you decide to bash Rancid, NoFX, Green Day or the Offspring you should no what the fuck your talking about. First of all, big bucks for a *good* cause is a lot more helpful to punk than a bunch of anarchists.

I'm starting to find a lot of hippocrates in the punk scene. For instance in the article it says that punk isn't the same since the era of the Sex Pistols and the Dead Boys. Well, I hate to brake it to ya but Sid Vicious was just added by Warner Bros. They thought his look would appeal to the "troubled youth." So the Sex Pistols who all the poseurs say started some kind of punk revolution are wrong. They were secretly a bunch of Warner Bros executives who tried to be like other punks and sell more records to them.
Gary Idiot/ Orange, CT

Dear Jeff M. and MRR,

Your pinko/comi beliefs are contradictory to the zine that you write for. If America was taken over by communism and capitalism was smashed, your zine would be out of print. When Russia was comi, your zine would be an American dream. Politicians hate MRR, but they can't do anything about it, cuz our great American Constitution protects your rights that you take for granted.

Another thing that our Constitution and Declaration of Independence guaranties is that if a citizen is unhappy with its government, it can overthrow it. If you knew that, you obviously wouldn't be anti-American. If you really believed what you say, then you would get off your arse and try to do something rather than hiding behind a zine. I know if my country was red and I had the right to overthrow it if I thought it was bad, I would work day and night to change its ways.
Scott ,

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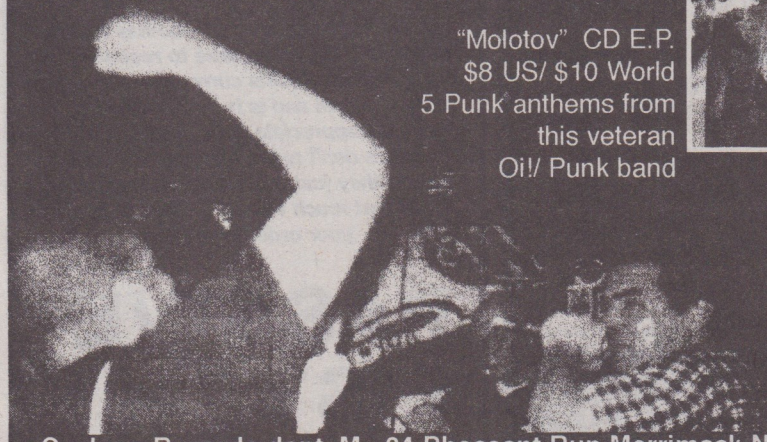

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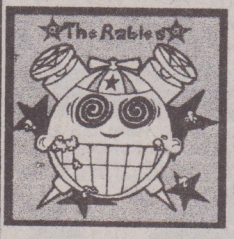

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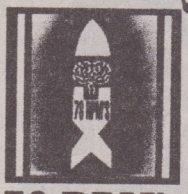

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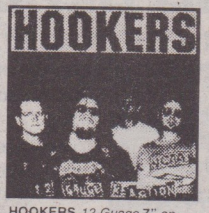

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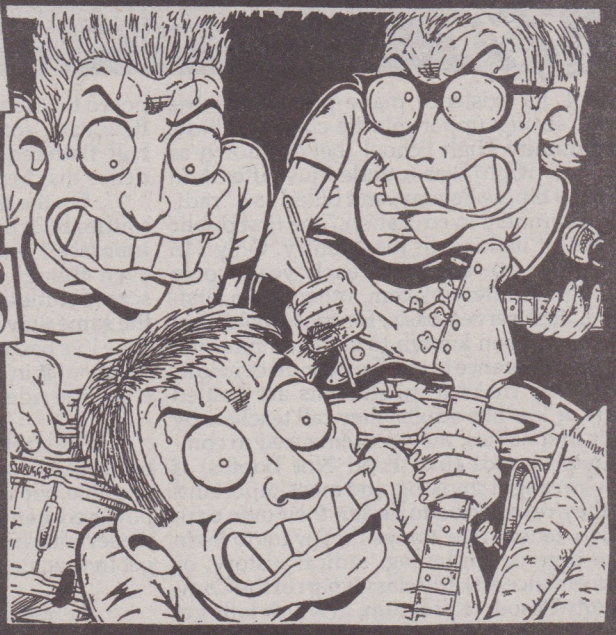

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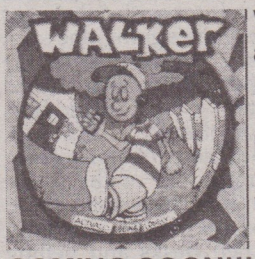

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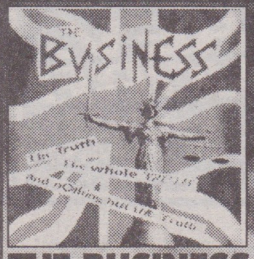

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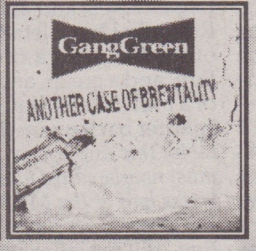

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COLUMNS

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Sitting on the floor of the classroom, whatever it is that's been holding them back suddenly breaks wide open. The first shy, awkward minutes after I handed out the chalk have passed, and my students are rushing to the board to scrawl the words of their favorite songs across the blackboard in pink and blue and yellow. I started them off with "some people think little girls should be seen and not heard, but i think... oh bondage, UP YOURS!" and they counter with "she's got stars to show her where she's going, she's got scars, she's got boots"... "so warriors for the cause, let's get together... the women united shall never be defeated"... "star bellied boy, you're no different from the rést" ... and "fuck prince charming and his problem-solving cum." More songs rattle out of the single speaker remaining in my battle-scarred and be-stickered boombox; the girls are all talking at once, sitting on their desks and yelling across the room, reading to each other and choosing the most important, the most meaningful of these women's words to write on the board. I'm grinning absurdly from my spot on the floor, interrupting only to encourage the last few reluctant ones to put something, *anything* up there, knowing that somehow, I've finally done just the right thing.

It's the third week of our "Practical Feminism" class. Fifteen girls and one brave boy will get high school social studies credit for learning, as I put it in the course description, everything from "self-defense to parallel parking." Inspired by friends who'd worked at private alternative schools in the Bay Area and inflamed by a fit of enthusiasm and bravado last spring, I decided to be a teacher. I wanted to set up a class that would bring feminism out of books and theories and into the everyday life of girls, to teach the things *someone* should have told me when I was sixteen. I ended up spending more than nine months designing the course, trying to live up to the hands-on, real-life promises I made in the description. The product of my temporary insanity (besides the piles of papers and books and menstrual products from outer space breeding in the area between my bed and closet) is the above scene of spontaneous mayhem, part of our "creating feminist culture" unit, in which the girls are supposed find a way to express themselves by making their own film or music or writing or performance; the rest of our semester will be spent doing things like a thirty foot high ropes course, DIY health care, self-defense workshops, even car maintenance. Our textbooks are photocopies and fashion magazines and each other.

Obviously, this isn't your average school. Its existence made possible by the city's strong upper-middle-class tax base, Community High School (better known as Commie High) was founded just after Ann Arbor's hippie heyday, and billed as a "radical experiment in education," the first public school of its kind in the country. Only 115 freshmen are admitted each year, some through a lottery system, others on a first-come, first-served basis; for those slots, parents have been known to start camping out weeks in advance to ensure their place in line. Once they make it in, students are treated more or less like adults: they call teachers by their first names, they get sentenced to community service (like Food Not Bombs) if they're caught smoking, and most importantly, they're expected to design their own education, to learn the things they want to learn (like organic gardening, radical history, or performance art). My class is part of the Community Resource program, in which kids get credit for working in the community or from courses designed by suckers like me who don't have teaching certificates and who enjoy getting up early without being paid for it. The result is that Commie High students are generally as well-educated and well-socialized by tenth grade as most of the people I met in college as a sophomore.

It's a situation which has led to some interesting rethinking on my part. I'll admit that in the back of my mind I had a vision of a class full of girls in rapt attention, dissecting cultural constructs of gender roles with razor-exactitude. In reality, I feel less like Socrates and more like a Kansas farmer in the path of a towering fifteen-girl cyclone, my only choices being to dive for the root cellar or to go along for the ride. I want to talk about Yoko Ono; they want to dis the Spice Girls. I'm used to examining issues slowly and carefully; instead I'm quickly learning to change topics mid-sentence, to let them drag me where they want to go, and then to dust myself off and point out what's important once the whirlwind dies down. Every minute of our class, I'm negotiating how to best keep some measure of organization without stomping all over their autonomy, how to channel their fabulous girl-energy without squelching it.

And if that weren't enough to put me off balance, at least once a day I'm stunned speechless by my students themselves. Whether it's one girl's assurance in her own power, hand on her hip, dreads bristling, telling off the kid in the hall who's making faces at the door while we're reading Sandra Cisneros, or another coming back into the building after class without her pants, barefoot and covered with mud. Or it's one girl's absolute comfort in her body, another who knows how to do lumberjack log-rolling, or the girl who's "amazing thing" I asked her to tell me about herself was having the courage to deal with her sister's death. Or it's the ideas they've come up with for their class projects: complex quilts devoted to exploring women's relationships with fabric, clothing, and sewing, an installation about taboos built upon the site near school where a woman was raped, an investigation into the sex industry, zines and videos and graffiti and spray paint stencils... It's hard to believe that I'm supposed to teach them anything, that they think they have something to learn from me; I'm half flattered, half terrified by their confidence that I can.

On the first day of our class I told them a little about my freight hopping trips. Riding trains isn't really a relaxing adventure for me: even though it's exhilarating, I'm always scared shitless. Right now I feel pretty much the same way about this class that I do every time I've been in a train yard. I'll be writing a lot about it in upcoming columns. Hope you enjoy the ride.

*****

I'm starting to do research about women in punk (and not just punk rock) for a possible book; anyone with info about girl-powered bands, zines and activism during the seventies and especially the eighties, please get in touch...

*****

the response from the ladies has been inspiring: keep it coming girls! i live for your letters, especially your recipes (i'm still waiting for chana masala). i'm actually close to being caught up with mail, apologies for taking so long. as usual, the address for adulation and compliments is: sheri g. pob 7564 ann arbor mi 48107, or sheri@cyberspace.org. and as usual, send all hate mail (and missionary mail is the most hateful of all) to tim and jen; i just plain old don't give a shit... hi to lisa and ismael in minneapolis, doug in chicago, and sweendog in portland...

...So, wanna talk football? Yeah, me neither. *AND NOW FOR SOMETHING MERCIFULLY COMPLETELY DIFFERENT:* i bought a house (i know, i know — *to what lengths will this madman go for new column ideas??? Wasn't bleaching his hair blonde far more than enough???*). I didn't *wanna* buy a house, thusly becoming part of the Landed Gentry, and the Boo-Schwa-Zee, and The Establishment, and the Oppressors of the Native Peoples, and an Enemy of Earth, and the Roundly Unproletariat-Like, and a Despoiler of the Soil, and a fink, and a pig, and a Bad Egg, and a creep, and a Fembot, and the parts of a particularly liquid bowel movement that splatter back up on the porcelain, and *(regrettably, this segment of the evening's performance must now be edited for space due to the fact that the better half of the MRR upper management team has recently reprimanded the author for submitting columns of excessive length; heavy indeed dangles the head of he who is cursed with overabundant longness [especially at truck stop restrooms with unduly-full toilet bowls. Commodore Schmidlapp, i believe we've dropped anchor!])* and stuff of that general nature; no siree, your honor. I would have been more than content to stay in my dilapidated digs for the rest of my time on earth, or until the

place fell over (i believe the latter would have occurred before the former), forking out dough twelve times a year to some capitalist asswipe for the privilege of staying in a mouse-shit laden building where a huge hunk of roof has come partially unattached, free to flap and thump when the winds come from the north (clarification: it's actually not the entire roof that came loose, just, like, the top layer of it or something. The whole roof doesn't actually blow off the apartment, thusly exposing the occupants to dangerous sunlight, et al, but, if it's funnier to imagine me living in a house where the whole ceiling flies up and slams back down periodically, with, you know, leaves flying in and hitting me in the face while I'm jerking off or whatever, by all means, extrapolate as you feel necessary) — a place where the downstairs door sometimes refuses to open because the hinges are pulling out of the frame, sometimes refuses to open because moisture has caused the door frame to swell, and other times refuses to open because a roaming drunk has chosen it an appropriate surface to pass out against — a place where the rather thorny problem of frozen water pipes in winter (i truly *despise* the rather thorny problem of frozen water pipes in winter, as, once the pipes are found to be frozen, the occupant must stay in the apartment to await the coming of the water department/lavatory cavalry, with merely enough water left in the toilet tank for *one flush*. Proper regulation of bodily processes is critical in situations such as these; second guessing onesself in latter stages of the crisis is not uncommon) was deftly handled by, quote, "handymen," unquote, who sawed holes in my bathroom walls so the heat from inside could travel to the interior of the walls and thereby keep the pipes warm; which, of course, not only instigated a bathroom climate generally about ten degrees colder than the rest of the house, but, since the yo-yos managed to partially hack thru the return pipe from the washing machine in their zeal to do good work, also wound up creating an interesting neo-Bobby-Brady-does-the-laundry-episode-of-*The Brady Bunch*-esque phenomenon whereby suds from the washing machine would leak out of the pipe they had gashed and then ooze through the holes in the wall, eventually winding up relentlessly plodding across the bathroom counter and threatening to overtake and contaminate my toothbrush and other treasured items of dental hygienics (but, on the bright side, my smile has never been whiter since that happy day i began brushing with new liquid Era™. Mmm, finally a laundry detergent that whitens *and* brightens those stubborn body soil stains on my molars! My mouth is *always* kissing fresh™ with Era™'s new nonionic surfactants!) — a place with a heavily utilized railroad spur conveniently located about fifty feet from my bedroom window — a place where windows will occasionally just fall out of the frame, where the faucets can't be shut off entirely, and where the porch door has to be barricaded shut to prevent it from blowing open when the wind comes from the south. *I would have been happy as a mouse shitting in the oven to live out the rest of my pathetic existence in this dust-laden, cheaply-paneled second story styrofoam catacomb.* Why? 'CAUSE I LIKE IT! It's *me*, daddy-o. It's weird and big and cheap and there aren't any neighbors and i can fit a *whole lotta junk* in it (as you well know, he who dies with the most junk wins. Just ask Johnny Thunders). It's in a bad neighborhood, so i never got any trick-or-treaters (i got exactly zero in eleven years), so i always got to eat all the candy myself. You can't get a free feed like that in suburbia, mac! When i moved into this "delightfully unique" three-bedroom pad in 1986, rent was a reasonable $325 a month, plus utilities. As of 10:23 PM CST 2.10.98, rent is now up to exactly $325 a month, plus utilities (i know, you'd think they coulda got double that after the railroad spur went in a few years back, but, you know, them hick Wisconsinites don't know jack doody about real estate values) — so, i mean, hey, what's a few extra comatose fucks in the doorway? Like, the worst event that has transpired in this neighborhood in recent months was that a hooker stabbed a guy in the ass in an apartment a block down the street (funny thing is that i knew not only the guy who got stabbed in the ass, but the hooker as well. I get around not unlike Brian Wilson). The majority of American citizens, i suspect, would blanch with fear when faced with the concept of living in a neighborhood where prostitute-induced buttock lacerations are not unheard of; realistically, though, *who the fuck cares?* It's not like she's gonna come running down the block in the middle of the night and stab ME in the ass, ya know? (besides, if she took a mad gouge at *my* rear, she'd probly break her dang blade on my bony buttockular protrusions) Fuck, i'll go on record as saying *I SUPPORT ALL (non-random) NEIGHBORHOOD STRUMPET-INVOKED FLESH WOUNDS ON THE GROUNDS OF KEEPING MY RENT CHEAP!!!* Shit, I'd rather live in a neighborhood with hookers and drunks and guys with knives sticking out of their asses and dirty bookstores and stuff than in some banal, quasi-suburban hell-hole where you got dirtballs breaking into your garage every other Tuesday and carloads of youthful toughs kicking people's asses for idle recreation and whatnot, but, regardless, the bottom line is that my landlords — the owners of the sheet metal factory on whose grounds my squalid living quarters is built — decided that they were gonna *TEAR MY BELOVED APARTMENT DOWN* because — dig it — *THEY DECIDED THEY WANTED MORE* ***PARKING SPACE.*** It's like, holy fuck, not to put you guys *out* or anything, but do you think you could find somewhere to park *that doesn't happen to be where i fucking LIVE???* Boy, nothin' makes a fella more acutely aware that he's the low man on the scrotum pole of life than knowing that his home can be completely demolished if some asswipe decides that's where he wants to park his Ford Bronco *(AAAACKKK!!!! AAAACKKK!!! I SAID IT!!! I SAID "BRONCO!!!" AAAAACKK!!! I SAID IT AGAIN!!! TRAUMA!!! AAAACKKKK!!! HUMILIATION!!! AAAACKKKK!!! TEMPORARY BLINDNESS SUCH AS WHEN HANK HILL SAW HIS MOTHER COPULATING WITH HER BOYFRIEND ON THE KITCHEN TABLE, AAAACKCKKK!!! AAAAACKKKKK!!! AAAAACKKKK!!!).* I mean, cripes, this place is a fucking punk rock historical site (occasionally a punk rock hysterical sight), bordering on tourist attraction-dom! To deliver the El Kabong to a place where members, or ex-members, or members-to-be of (you can skip this part if you wish) the Adolescents AG'sAlienBoysAllAODBigDrillCarBikiniKill BlackFlagChemicalPeopleCouch-FlambeauDag NastyDescendentsDIDidjits-DieKreuzenDJLebowitzDownByLawDYS Emily'sSassyLimeEvaporatorsGazaStrippersGoodbyeHarryGuns'n'WankersInfectionsTheLastLeeHarveyOswaldBandMIAMoralCruxMyName NewBombTurksNobodysParasitesPleasedYouthRehabsRifleSportRip Off-sSacredOrderSamiamSinkholeS kullsSmugglersSnuffSonicDollsSup erchargerSuper-suckersSweetBabyToxicReasonsVictim's FamilyWesleyWillis and the Zero Boys once slept seems, i dunno, *darn wrong* (of course, it did provide me with an excuse for some mighty creative namedropping — i mean, ain't it great how if the drummer of All stays at your house, you can also claim a member of Black Flag and the Descendents stayed there? Quite a value...from now on, if you stay at my house, you gotta have been in at least three famous bands to make it worth my while) (in my defense, however, i didn't really go as all-out with the blatant namedropping as i could have: you'll notice that Shyster, Shyster & Flywheel were left off the list [for the record, the most famous person who was ever merely *in* my house was Butch Vig, the guy who produced the first two Nirvana albums {i think}. Before he was in the dopey band he's in now, Garbage, he was in this thoroughly gimped-out and thankfully short-lived band called Fire Town, and i think they tagged along with a stagehand or something to a party i was having one night {and, believe you me, before TheGreat Drought of 1991-present, my roommates and i used to hold Green Bay's party scene in a goddamned iron grip! When we said *"party!"* the world shook its goddamn groove tushie! And when we said *"stop!"* — ha, it's a trick question! We *NEVER* said *"stop!"* }. As i understand it, they walked in and all the scurvy punk rockers decided they were lame and wouldn't talk to them, so they had one beer and left. Don't ask me, i was passed out during this exciting brush with fame]). I mean, where is one apt to find another abode that veritably percolates with the residue of such punkly glory? Where else can i soap myself up in a shower where Jaime Pina of the Chemical People once tit-fucked his girlfriend, then make a peanut butter sandwich in a kitchen where ancient Charly Pip of the Skulls, clad in my full-face motorcycle helmet, inhaled huge lungfuls of cannabis vapor from a joint the size of a Cuban cigar (the rich man's Honduran), then closed the visor and exhaled, laughing insanely as his features disappeared behind a swirling cloud of thick white dope smoke, then watch TV in a living room where the Rehabs once...*well, okay, never you god damn mind the Rehabs!* I type this column in a room where Dave Smalley once had sex (well, i *hope* he had sex, he was sure in there long enough); shouldn't a landmark/blight of this nature be allowed to fester uncontrollably for countless future generations, like a humongous, continually-picked particle-board scab that covers a wound which never really needs to heal? GOD DAMMIT, this dump was the mother-

fricking KING-HELL-PARTY-PIT from '86 thru '90, inclusive! We had the *most* crashing space, the *biggest* record collections, and *no* neighbors. We ruled the earth (of course, the downside of this is that i had to endure my roommates coming home from the bars with a bunch of drunken dolts in tow and waking me out of a sound sleep by blasting stupid records like Agent Orange "Living In Darkness" or TSOL "Dance With Me" more times than i care to remember, and what was i gonna do? Get up and smash my own albums?)! I mean, i've made carnal whoopee with *eight* different females in this room over the course of the last eleven years (a staggering .73 chicks per annum! *Whoo!* Baby I'm A King!), I'm kind of attached to the place (six of 'em were even of legal age! I'm a damn saint!). Horrors, a change of venue might negatively impact my ability to score with such aplomb! The fact that some jag-off is gonna bulldoze this rapidly deteriorating Temple of Thwunk and not allow it to come gloriously toppling over under its own power just goes to show ya how little respect Americans have for the building blocks of their own peculiar culture. Feh. So i bought a house. I know, how scandalous. I am well aware that the first word in "homeowner," (phonetically speaking) is "homo"—but, then again, the first word in "fellatio" is "fella," and that's never once crimped my enjoyment of receiving same. Besides, i bought this house with one eyeball duly affixed to the *MRR* code of housing ethics (leading to many a realtor mumbling about the off-putting Cyclopean nature of my countenance): Number one, instead of putting out records that should never have been released to raise money for a house, i just saved money by opting *not* to put out a few bands' records that probably *should* have been released (a policy which i should have thought of a bit earlier in my record-mongering career, i might add); Number Two, i read in *MRR* that mortgages aren't punk, so i'm paying cash (and, lest the nature of my personal finances fall under the electron microcope of punkoscopic scrutiny, let the grand ledger show that, according to my **duly filed and unimpeachably accurate 1996 Federal Tax Return**, the punk rock record label biz only makes me like four thou a year; i make the remaining 25 grand of my yearly income at my day job down at the ol' smut rag. Ain't really hard to save money when you've been living in the local equivalent of the Bowery for eleven years). Since mortgages are un-punk, buying a house with cash is, i assume, quite punk. It is, at the very least, far less annoying and lame than asking people for spare change, so get a fucking job ya no-account loser puke. Hey, man, as a homeowner, the cops are my own private security force and i can have them crack you in the jaw with a rifle butt if you look at me funny, so get a move on (actually, i talk real smart now, but i'm sure like two weeks from now i'll be beset by some horrible financial tragedy and be reduced to sleeping in a pool cue case, where i'll eke out a meager existence by dyeing my hair blonde again so i look more like Billie Joe and convincing elderly homosexuals to buy me 7-Ups so they can hear me belch the song "Prosthetic Head" for tips and smokes ['course, i don't smoke, but if i was homeless, i'd take it up to assist in my shrewd financial planning]). My house, which i get to start moving into two weeks from Friday, cost me an even 48 grand. This is my life savings, plus a couple thousand drained out of the Bulge Records account. $48,000, on cursory visual inspection, appears to be a shamefully large sum of money — until one takes into account that **a)** the total rent paid on this fleabag apartment since i've lived here is over $44,000, and **b)** even in Green Bay, not exactly Park Place/Boardwalk on the Monopoly™ board of life, 48 grand for a house ain't *shit*. You'd be surprised how little you can get for fifty thousand bucks, it's legitimately amazing and moderately horrifying. I can't even conceive of how little fifty grand would get you in some place like San Francisco or Boston; maybe it'd get you a nice tree fort or something. In Manhattan, it'd be like two months rent. Virtually all the houses i looked at in my price range totally sucked, and some were too far from Taco Bell™ to walk to (i actually *did* walk from the downtown Taco Bell™ to some of these places just to see how long it would take. Sometimes people would be walking their dogs and their dogs would jump on me. I *hate* that shit. Those neighborhoods need more hookers), but, against all odds, i actually found a non-decrepit house in a nice neighborhood for under 50k (i actually almost bought a real nice house with like three bedrooms and a swingset in the back for $57,900, but my dad, of all people, talked me out of it. I don't even know what the fuck i told him i was gonna buy it for; when i told him i was buying a car he told me how stupid i was for like a week as he drove me around looking at every saleable vehicle in Northeastern Wisconsin, only to eventually decide that the car i initially wanted to buy was, AS I HAD BEEN SAYING ALL ALONG, the best value on the market. I shouldn'tve even told him i was moving, just waited until he came around to pick me up for a Packer game in September only to find a parking lot, then, when he calls, all bewildered, go *"what do you MEAN, my house is gone? I'm still at the same place i always was! What way did you come off the bridge? South? Do you have Alzheimer's or something? It's north! Sure it's always been north!"* and keep making up different directions and phony landmarks and insisting that i'm still living in the same place until he commits himself to a mental institution, then i would get *his* house and all my troubles would be over). The catch? The fucking thing is *all metal*. The exterior walls are *metal*. I'm not talking aluminum siding, i'm talking fucking *steel*. The roof is *metal*. The interior walls are *metal* (as an added fashion bonus, the whole thing is painted a delightful shade of grey. If i were to find out that the house was actually Lead of the Metal Men in some sort of incognito surveillance role, i would be not at all surprised). Apparently this was supposed to be the Next Big Thing Type House after World War II, but it quickly died an Edsel's death (the obvious compulsion is to buy the house a denim vest, write "VERY METAL" on the back, erect an orange mohawk on the roof and name it "Vyvyan," but i think even less people would get that than get why a band with a singer named Naven Johnson called themselves "Steve & The Jerks"). In any event, i am still agonizing over the impending transition from a home veritably overflowing with unchecked punkitude to a house merely overflowing with...well...*metal*. I need to punk up that place *but fast*, 'cause i don't think i have another decade of partying with the stars left in me. Any suggestions on how to make my new gloriously inorganic pad really punk, really quickly would be greatly appreciated; my current plan is to have a big party and hire the Donnas, Trashwomen, Supersnazz and Lunachicks to serve cocktails and Li'l Smokies™ whilst clad in nothing but thong bikinis made out of rubber bands and refrigerator magnets (the effects of metal walls on these outfits being left as a mental exercise for the reader) — but i won't have any room in my freezer for Li'l Smokies™ until i finish the turkey nuggets, so look for your invite around 2014 AD.

DAN O' BALONY

Part 1

Was it worth it?

Back in the Bay. West Oakland to be exact.

I find myself standing in front of the full length mirror in my bedroom. I strip. I begin to examine my naked body before getting into the shower. I'm only at half mast. Not the usual overwhelming sexual satisfaction I get from staring at myself naked in the mirror. The tour really did take it's toll. I think back.

On the verge of the new millennium, now officially a thirty something, yet another romp across Europe, to once again destroy my hardcore credibility and reconfirm myself as a "unabashed capitalist".

Was it worth it?

The fighting and the fucking? The young Norwegian girl fifteen years between us. Or the woman in Sweden? Hips and thighs packed tight in her vinyl pants only to have them torn to pieces in a frenzy or primitive lust. The fight between myself and some kid in Hamburg? Jack Daniels meet Dan. Bottle meet some kids skull. Crimson liquid spills onto the floor as he goes unconscious.

Was it worth it?

The myriad of booze and drugs? Bottle after bottle of ouzo, vodka, and Jaigermeister. A syringe or two of heroin and bowl upon bowl of hash in Amsterdam. Lines of speed and coke in Hamburg. Endless bottles of wine in France.

Was it worth it?

The food? Fuck protein powder mixed with water and cold cans of beans. Bring on the Filet Mignon, sausages and crepes smothered in heavy cream sauce. Business as usual for Orange County's public enemy number one. Overwhelmingly unacceptable to the hardcore codas du jour. A slap in the face to the H.C. police. A traitor whose self destructive madman status is now cemented in stone.

Was it worth it?

Give me a fuckin' break.

Part 2

COLUMNS

I realize after a week or two of being back that it's time to hit the weights, hard.

One. Two. Three. That's it. Drive it up. Harder. Make yours arms an ideal photo opportunity. Now take the bottom sections of your abs that have been saying "Hey...fuck you. I need more pizza" and kick their fuckin' ass. Do it. Like a bull chasing a potential mate. Harder. Fight, fuck, fight. I'm on fire.

Part 3

I decide to swing by the warehouse that sits between the Mission and South of Market in San Francisco. The book has been selling well and I should have a check waiting.

I go through the front door to the warehouse and make my way up the stairs to his office. I always get a slight sinking feeling in my stomach when I stop by. I mean what does he really think of the man who was dicking his wife while he was overseas? I knock on his office door.

"Come in." I enter the room and find him seated behind his desk. Our eyes meet and I nervously look away.

"How's it going ?" I ask.

"Good." he says. His accent less noticeable than I remember. We make some small talk about how the book is selling. Talk then turns to a possible second one. When I first mention the idea he seems a bit apprehensive. And begins shifting in his chair uncomfortably. Finally he gets up from his chair and comes out from behind his desk.

Our eyes meet and I take a good look at him for the first time. Tall, thin, very boyish. His skin soft, supple and milky like a dessert topping. From behind his glasses I see his hazel eyes gazing into mine. Our hands touch.

Let skin cross skin, lip cross lip. Mouth meets mouth. Hands are touching faces. Shirts and boots disappear. Levi Strauss loses himself and ends up a crumpled pile on the floor along with his buddy Joe Boxer.

His now uncovered skin presses against mine and we slide to the floor. Smooth and subtle, soft and silent, he strokes on protection and lubrication so slick it seems like something else. His back arches, ass pushing upwards, begging. I come down on him like a battering ram at the gates of a medieval castle. Pounding, sweating, we do our primal dance. I'm insane. I feel no pain. The circle, which began so long ago, is now truly complete.

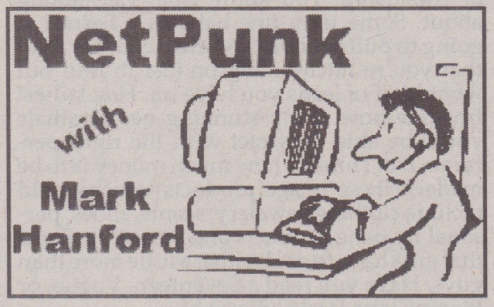
One of the questions that has been greatly troubling me lately is JUST WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH THIS MAGAZINE? Rehashed D.K. lyrics may be fine for the kinder who are just discovering life beyond the Spice Girls, but why are the issues of concern to we older, more worldly types (other than collector geeks) ignored?

I know that there are many readers out there whose palates have matured beyond being rails for the Night Train to make its express journey down (and sometimes back up), but have no idea where to start searching for decent but affordable wines (and are no longer able to merely search it out in their parents' wine rack). And should they get Chianti or Valpolicella to go with pasta (and what is the proper meal date etiquette when dating a younger individual who is still vegan or vegetarian)?

And what about audio equipment? As long as you've got a real job, you can afford to get a decent playback system. But how do you make certain that you're getting the most for your money? Do you turn to some non-punk corporate mag such as Consumer Reports and hope that they can be trusted the way that MRR can?

And how do you use your money in a manner that is consistent with the philosophy of punk without significantly decreasing the returns on your investments?

These are important issues, indeed. I'm rather anxious to find out the answers myself, in fact, so I will be accepting queries along these lines and fielding them out to appropriate authorities in order to address your concerns. So please send them in, so that we can ALL OF US (every one!) help bring punk into the 21st century. Organize for anarchy!



Nothing much to rant about this month. I suppose I could do an April Fool's column and give some story about how the government has decided to censor the net, but unfortunately it wouldn't be a story. The legislature is hard at work trying to decide what you can and can't read/hear/see on the internet. Please remember to check at http://www.cdt.org/ for the latest attempts to restrict your rights. The latest is a bill sponsored by Sen. John McCain to require that schools and libraries receiving federal funds for their Internet access use filtering and blocking software. No more porn at school, kids.

Anyway, I have a backlog of websites to let you in on this month, since I didn't give you any link at all last time. My column of a couple of months ago about punk radio stations live on the net garnered a few responses from people who wanted their sites mentioned. Ken Wisconsin let me know about his show, Dirtknap Radio, which is part of the Antenna Radio website. Ken plays lots of new punk rock as well as a few oldies. The current show that is available as I am writing this includes music from The Candy Snatchers, The Gotohells, The Von Zippers and more. Dirtknap runs in both Real Audio and Microsoft Netshow. Check out Dirtknap from the Antenna Radio site at http://www.antennaradio.com/ .

Another cool Real Audio punk radio show is entitled, simply enough, Punk Rock Radio. You'll find music here from bands like Black Flag, Bikini Kill, Chaos UK, Gang of Four, Templars, Pulley and more. It's a good mix of music. However, in February, December's show was still up, so I don't know how much he is maintaining it anymore. Anyway, you can listen to whatever he has there now at http://www.rasslin.com/prr/ . It's not a radio show, but it is a good collection of Northwest punk, the 10 Things Jesus Wants You to Know comp CD that came out awhile back is now online for your listening pleasure. These files are in mp3 format, so you'll need a different player for them, but there are links to programs to play these files at the website. Check out the songs at http://www.cob altgroup.com/~randy/10in dex.html .

Okay, so the next few websites I'll mention are specific scene related web pages. These are either pages that try to represent the scene of a particular town, or possibly a club in that town that makes the scene. Remember, if you have a scene related page, you should e-mail me the address, and it you've got your shit together, I'll probably give it a mention. A couple of cool pages have popped up in my old hometown of Boise, Idaho. The Angry Potato Punk Page (http://angry.home.ml.org) is one of them, and it has a ton of cool shit. There's a pretty decent scene report, upcoming show list, links to other Boise pages, and a javachat utility so you can chat with people in potatoland. Of course, I take special interest in Boise, but I'll probably come back to Angry Potato to visit and find out what's going on.

The other cool Boise page is Pecker's Boise Punk Page (http://www.angelfire.com/az/punxrock6/boipunk.html) which is mostly a bunch of links to other Boise pages, although there is some decent original content here as well. There's a decent page about Hawaii called Hawaiian Express, even though the guy who made up the page moved away from Hawaii a year or so ago. This is basically a listing of stuff like you'd find in the Hawaii section of BYOFL, but updated so that it is (hopefully) useful. There are a few links to other Hawaiian band pages and address of clubs, record stores, etc. An excellent resource if you are planning on taking a vacation or are interested in the Hawaiian scene, you'll find the page at http://members. aol.com/Hwnexp/news.html . Next up is Moo-La-La Records page of Sacramento punk (http://www.sl.net/~ttbooks/moolala/).

You'll find a Sacramento scene report, the Moo-La-La catalog of Sacto music, and a discography of Sacto punk. This site could definitely use some more content, but it is off to a good start. For a little bit of info about the Missoula, Montana scene, you can check out the Jay's Upstairs webpage. Jay's Upstairs is a Montana club that hosts punk bands and other stuff. Their web page has some decent photos, and links to web pages of other Missoula bands.

You can check out Jay's Upstairs at http://www.nwlink.com/~woof/jays/index.html . There have to be at least as many online electronic zines as there are paper ones, and the online ones are a hell of a lot easier to get your eyes on, since you don't have to bother with mail-ordering everything. Plus, online zines

are usually in color, and if you really want a hard copy, you can always print them out. Anyway, here are a few online zines I've discovered / been alerted to in the last few months.

Furball (http://www.nipperland.demon.co.uk/index.html) covers garage punk and more. The site featured stuff from The Brood, The Gories, Jackknife, the Phantom Surfers and more, along with features on the Avengers TV show, and Chuck Bukowski. While it might not be 100% punk, it is all relatively non-commercial, and worth your while if you have an open ear.

Anarchist Barbie Doll (http://lehua.ilhawaii.net/~mj/zine/main.html) is a zine out of Hawaii. The current issue features interviews with Against All Authority and the Power Pellets, and well as rants, poetry, and other stuff. They also have their back issues online, so there is plenty here to keep you occupied. They also take submissions, so any of you looking for a vehicle for your writing should check out this page. Losers are Cool e-zine may not be about punk rock, but since punk rock is about being a loser, then it is perfect for those of us who've never quite fit in. The Loser rants about all kinds of different subjects - from racism to the crap he has to put up with at work and more. Well worth checking out, you'll find Losers are Cool at http://home.earthlink.net/~theloser/ .

Another decent e-zine is Moisst (http://www.goodnet.com/~moisst/). The current issue includes Gas Huffer, The Descendents, Youth Brigade, and the Vandals, as well as letters, music reviews and more. It's nice to see decent interviews, because in my opinion that is one place where many online zines are weak.

The final sites that I want to mention this month are a couple of record company pages. I can't remember if I mentioned the New Red Archives (http://www.new redarchives.com/) but if I did, they've definitely changed their site since last time I was there. Lots of cool photos and links to NRA bands, as well as a recommended zine reading list and a few other things. Nifty. Another pretty cool site is the Posh Boy Discography page at http://www.geocities.com/Hollywood/Boulevard/6382/discography.htm .

This page gives you a complete listing of the Posh Boy releases, as well as interesting observations on some of the releases by Robbie Fields, the owner of Posh Boy. Find out exactly what records you're missing from you complete Posh Boy collection. I think that's about enough for this month. E-mail me at hanford@cruzio.com, or write to me at PO Box 8059; Santa Cruz, CA 95061. And don't forget to visit my columns online at http://netpunk.base.org/. See ya.

It's Valentine's Day (night, actually) and I have nothing better to do than sit in front of a computer and type this coulmn. Sad, huh? Considering my luck with relationships, it's probably better this way. Anyhow, I was planning on writing the first of a three-part column on technological progress/regress and the companies that shove it down our throats. However, I have a bunch of random things I want to talk about, so you'll have to wait until next month for that. In the meantime...

LOVE FOR SALE

As I just mentioned, it's Valentine's Day. This gives me a good chance to talk about something that's been on my mind lately. It's about relationships, love, and (of course) corporations. Have you ever stopped to think about all the different ways that companies make money off of human relations? Let me explain.

First off, the way that we usually meet others is by physically noticing them. Therefore, people have a natural tendency to concern themselves with personal appearance. Marketers can feed off that tendency. They've been very successful at creating (or regurgitating) trends. So successful, in fact, that they can now sell T-shirts that probably cost a handful of change to make for $30, simply because of the brand name. They quite often pull it off by using images of love, infatuation, or friendship. You know what I'm talking about. Some ultra-fine babe in a Ferrari is going to pull over on the lonely country road that you're hitch-hiking on just to find out what kind of jeans you have on. Hey ladies! Imagine how many stunning neandrathals you'll be able to attract with the right perfume. Etc! Think of how much money is to be made off these 'image' products (which would include clothing, jewelery, scents, shoes, personal hygiene products and so on). It seems that girls have to deal with it a little more than guys. Have you read a Seventeen, Vogue, or Marie Claire lately? Blecchh!

And look at how Hollywood rakes it in with this love bit. The most common dates for 'normal' people almost always includes a movie. (Yeah, that's a real great way to get to know each other—sit in a dark, crowded room and stare at a huge screen for a couple of hours!) Or what about marriage? There's engagement rings, wedding rings, church/court fees, dresses and tuxedoes, reception halls, caterers, kegs of beer, shitty-50's wannabee bands, invitations, the honeymoon. It adds up!

We also can't forget the floral industry, the greeting-card business, and even the computer and telephone companies (How many ads have you seen with loved ones sharing moments over the phone or computer?). Yep. Love and attraction are expensive. Perhaps someday, everyone will catch on that love has nothing to do with all this material jibberish. It's just an emotion that you share with someone. It seems wrong that money should play a role, don't ya think?

WILL WORK FOR _____?

Since it's February, that means it's tax season. Yahoo. Here's a comforting thought for you while you're filling out those forms: About half of the government's yearly budget goes towards war, killing, and terrorism (ah, pardon me, "defense"). I don't know about your situation, but last year, Uncle Scam took about 10% of my wages (not including Medicare and Social Security). Doing the math, I figured out that for every 8-hour shift I work, I spend about a half-hour working to create funds for fighter planes, guns, tanks, bombs, uniforms, etc. That one wiped the smile off my face for a while.

FURTHER JOB EXCITEMENT

A couple of months ago, I went into great detail about my job. I wasn't even working at the time. Well, I'm back now, and things are crazy as ever. Union activity is really starting to flare up. The Steelworkers of America are pushing for our plant to join. Just this past week, we had meetings with upper management. They were supposed to be an attempt to better communicate with workers. Really, all they turned out to be were long anti-union rants. They were really trying hard to convince us that the union would rob us of our personal freedoms, cause the loss of our jobs, and help support crack-smoking terrorists with our dues. The meeting that I attended lasted about two hours and half of it was spent spreading fear and anxiety about unions.

To tell you the truth, I don't like unions that much. Not that they aren't terrific tools in helping workers that deserve more get compensated justly, they are. But I think of unions like I think of band-aids and water purifiers. If you didn't have a cut, you wouldn't need a band-aid. If we wouldn't have polluted the hell out of our waterways, then we wouldn't need to buy water purifiers. If upper management treats it's workers well from the get-go, then there would really be no need for a union. It's awfully rare to see that happen though.

So, anyway, this head-honcho from somewhere in Minnesota is standing up there, telling us that we shouldn't believe in union's empty promises. They can't guarantee job security or higher wages. The only way we can get those is by finding solid customers. So, I raised my hand during the question-answer period and mentioned that the only solid customers we had were dropping us. That obviously doesn't spell job security! I told him that it seemed as though the Company was giving us just as many empty promises as any union ever could ever dream of coming up with. A bunch of people started clapping and what not. Boss man then got visibly upset. He started going off about how potential customers will pass us by if we're a union plant. So, I asked if it would even make sense to do business with anyone who didn't care about the cost or quality of our product, and concerned themselves solely with whether or not we were a union plant. At this point, the guy looks me straight in the eye and tells me that I am naive. Now, a bunch of management folks towards the front start clapping and one of them even said, sarcastically, "How old is this kid anyway?" I found out later that this was the head of our Human Resources Dept. The man is obviously well suited for his job. Yesterday, I finally got to go to one of the union meetings. It was interesting, to say the least. I learned a lot of different things. But most of all, it was inspiring! It's good to see people actually standing up in the face of authority, just to call for justice. I hope we can

pull it off.

CHANGING DEFINITIONS

I've written a lot about the benefits of organic food before. Many of these benefits may become hard to decipher in the very near future. The Department of Agriculture is trying to come up with a national standard for the terms of which a food can use to label itself as organic. When they got down to it, they discovered something terribly wrong. Most of these 'organic' provisions flew in the face of corporate mega-farms, where quantity is surely more important (and profitable) than quality. God forbid if the corporates had to change their destructive practices to be part of this growing market. To solve this 'problem', they would simply have to alter the very definition of the word.

So, under their proposal, this is what organic would mean. For starters, city sludge would be acceptable to use as a fertilizer. Granted, this sludge contains a good deal of chemicals that are washed down household and industrial drains every day, but c'mon—we have to get over the idea that organic food doesn't have contact with chemicals. Also, they want to allow food grown with the help of the biotechnology industry—I bet Monsanto, Dow, and DuPont had something to do with this. And they gave some assisstance to the nuclear industry by allowing irradiated food to be labeled as organic. I honestly can't believe that we are (quite literally now) nuking our food and debating whether or not it's safe. Seems like a no-brainer to me. Any of you meat-eaters that have actually tried to stick to organic meat will love these last two. No longer will organic meat mean that the animals weren't raised in factory farms and pumped full of antibiotics. Now, because of wording loopholes, they can still be crowded into tiny cages and shot up with antibiotics when they fall ill (which is bound to be often if you're crowding them into tiny cages, right?) Finally, it will be OK to feed animals protein supplements which are made from, hmmm.....other animals. If I heard my 8th grade biology teacher correctly, aren't cows, pigs, chickens (or whoever the hell else it is that you guys eat) vegetarians? Not anymore, I guess. Now they're cannibals. (Maybe we could start using this as a justification for eating meat. 'Hey, if I didn't eat chickens, they'd eat each other!') Anyhow, this is, among other things, a splendid way to spread disease.

However, this isn't set in stone yet. The USDA's final report is to come out next fall, after which it will have to be passed by Congress. If you're reading this before March 16, and if you have access to a computer, you can give your opinion regarding these matters on the USDA web site (www.ams.usda.gov/nop). Other than that, we'll have to wait until Congress takes it up next year and yell at them.

RANDOM

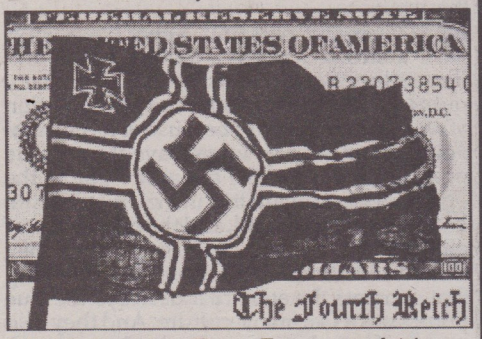
1. Prepare thyself, for THE SCUZZ is almost upon thee. I'm priviledged enough to have already heard the recording for their first 7 inch. They're gonna knock ya on yer asses! Keep your eyes peeled.
2. Speaking of local records, USV and THE KRAMMIES came out with a split 7 inch a month or so ago. If you can find it, get it. It's amazingly good! (Hey, just because I seem to be plugging local bands in every column doesn't mean that I don't actually enjoy their music. When I say it's good, I'm not just saying it to make the bands feel better. They really do rule, got it?)
3. I must publicly thank Ray Davis for being a root beer god. Two new additions to my collection in just as many weeks. Thanks Ray! Now, if he could just figure out how to steal me one of his dad's 4-wheelers...
4. Bruce Nevin, of Lancaster, PA, gave me a great suggestion. He thinks that I should start printing the addresses of the companies I write about. That way, if any of you feel inclined enough to send them a small piece of your mind, you can. Good idea Bruce! I'll start doing that in my future columns. However, if you want the address of any of the companies that I've already written about, write me and I'll give send it to you. Or, you could save yourself some time by going to your local library and finding it yourself. D.I.Y., baby!
5. Speaking of addresses, mine is PO Box 504, Chippewa Falls, WI, 54729. You know the drill.

Hello music fans. I decided to take some time out of my busy schedule at the Maximum Rock 'n' Roll mansion to introduce myself. You may be wondering how I landed a position dictating the scene. Basically, I slept my way to the top. You'd be hard pressed to find someone on the mag I haven't had a roll in the sack with (don't worry, I always used a condom). I'm pretty sure that's how everyone gets on staff here, which is the main reason I'm scouting out new (read "hot", "nympho", "lusty") talent. I'm looking forward to my crack at the initiation process.

Now that I'm running the show (well, I'm helping run the show. Mostly, I'm just a puppy trailing after Jen & Tim, all happy, floppin' around with my tongue hangin out, beggin' for attention, gettin' under foot, sniffin' between the legs of visitors), there's gonna be some changes around here. Soon, the house will be converted into a kitten shelter. No cats, just kittens, they're cuter. And, dry humpin', there's gonna be a lot more of that going around (luckily Devon is back in town, he can help out with that one).

As far as the magazine goes... they put me in charge of the interviews section (my friends will get a chuckle outta that since they all know I'm ambivalent about band interviews and my show attendance record has been very poor in the last few years, but I'm actually getting into it and enjoying it very much), so direct suggestions my way, (by the way, tons of people have already mentioned the "hey, those interviews are fuckin' hard to read" thing, so if you was gonna bitch about that, save it). And, if you know a band that rocks your world(or someone that's not in a band who does a project that makes you wanna cream your pants), don't wait for someone else to do an interview, do it yourself and send it in with some graphics, we'll take care of the rest (but, do check with us beforehand). Just think, **your** name could appear on that list of contributors at the beginning of the mag. Oh the fame, the glory...

Take it sleazy!



DE: My name is Dave Emory, and it's my honor and privilege again to present Martin A. Lee, the author of the just released *The Beast Reawakens*, published in hardcover by Little Brown Books. Martin, welcome back..

ML: Thank you.

DE: We have been speaking about fascism inside of parts of the former Soviet Union, and one of the things that might seem strange to people who are familiar with the virulent anti-Communist attitudes of fascism, is that something like the dual policy and the eastern orientation of some of the Nazi elements that we've been speaking about could even take place. Could you talk a little about why the Nazis, leaving aside the Bismarkian edict that we talked about earlier, why the Nazis would see the Russian people, or some of the other European Soviet republics as allies, or potential allies.

ML: Well during the Cold War, again, people like Major General Otto Ernst Remer, Hitler's former bodyguard, saw the Soviet Union as the best possible ally for Germany. And of course, Remer was living in West Germany during the Cold War. And the reason, again, is primarily geopolitical. They felt that, in line with Bismark, this was the way for Germany to go. If you want a strong, powerful, German reich, you have to be allied Soviet Russia, or just plain old Russia. The fact that it was Soviet or communist was something that was unfortunate, as far as Remer and his Nazi colleagues were concerned, but nonetheless it was still so powerful, that imperative, looking to the east, that in an effort to play that eastern card, they overlooked the fact that Russia was communist, and they sought to deal with it anyway. So Remer himself had extensive dealings with the Soviet Union, going back to the early 1950s, when he was head of the Socialist Reich party, a neo-Nazi political party in Germany that was eventually banned, as a successor of the Nazi party. Going right on up to the collapse of the Soviet Union, he was having private meetings with one of Gorbachev's advisors on Germany, Valentin Falin, who was a key diplomat in terms of advising Gorbachev on policies with respect to Germany. What Remer did, when

he met with Valentin Falin, is suggest to him that what they needed to do was reenact, or resurrect something like the Rapallo treaty of 1922. This is how Remer always looked at Russia, as a potential partner that was of utmost importance for Germany to ally with.

DE: You write of the racial make up of, not only the Russian republic, but places like the Ukraine, as well as the anti-materialism of the former Soviet Union, as elevating the Soviets above the Americans, in the eyes of some of these people.

ML: This is also part of it. There has always been a strong tendency among Nazis and fascists to criticize the United States for many reasons. Not only for its military domination of western Europe, but because of its cultural domination. And in some ways the critique there is similar to, like the new right or the Christian fundamentalists in the United States. You know, Hollywood, and the corruption of imagery and so forth and so on. And they looked at American capitalism as something that corrupts the soul, that destroys the true European or Germanic culture. And they also saw the United States as a mixed race country, as a country that had a strong Jewish influence. Of course they way over exaggerated what that influence was. But when they looked at the Soviet Union, on the other hand, they saw a country that was basically white people, white Russians. And they saw a country that was in many ways explicitly anti-Semitic, under the guise of being anti-Zionist, in its government policies. So the official anti-Semitism emanating from Stalin initially, and then in many ways from his successors, was something that did not go unnoticed by neo-Nazi groups in Germany and elsewhere. It was yet another reason why they chose to overlook the fact that Soviet Russia was communist, when it had these other things going for it. When the racial complexion and make up of Russia was something more to the neo-Nazis liking, this was a very key factor.

DE: You write on page 389 as follows, Martin: British scholar Roger Griffin likened fascism to "a super virus which constantly evolves to accommodate changes in its habitat, producing a wide variety of new strains resistant to traditional prophylactics." I'd like to talk about some of these new strains of fascism, beginning, perhaps, with the fascist third position. And I think in terms of its political antecedents, some of what you write about the activities of people like Otto Ernst Remer and Otto Skorzeny in the Middle East, some of those activities on behalf of US intelligence, and even before that, some of the Third Reich connections to the Middle East with people like Haj Amin-al Husayni.

ML: Well, there's a lot there that you just raised, it's a good question. In a very broad sense, there were too geopolitical strategies pursued by Nazis and fascists after World War II. On one hand, some of them went to the west, on the basis of a shared anti-communism. They allied themselves with the western powers, some worked with western secret service agencies, including the CIA which employed a great many Third Reich veterans. On the other hand, there were those who felt, that, no, you have to reject both communism and capitalism, both east and west. You have to affirm a pan-European identity. And this idea of a pan-European approach was, I think, emphasized because neo-Nazi elements, or post-War Nazi elements, in Europe, realized that a single European country, whether it be France or Britain of Germany or Italy, could in no way possibly challenge the military and cultural power of the two superpowers. The only way to challenge the superpowers during the Cold War was to unite all of Europe in an integrated, neutral, non-aligned bloc. And it was that advocacy of a non-aligned policy that dovetailed with what was happening in the emerging Third world. What's very curious is that post-War Nazis in Europe saw themselves as being pro-Third world. Not because they necessarily sincerely believed in liberating countries that were being oppressed either by the Soviet Union, or the United States or whatever, but because they thought it to their advantage geopolitically to emphasize emerging, neutral, non-aligned power bloc. And of course, the Arab countries were a very key component of that phenomena. And during the Third Reich, Hitler always had a policy of aligning with certain Arab states, the Grad Mufti of Jerusalem was a key Arab-Muslim ally. But there were some problems there as well, because of Vichy France and fascist Italy, although they were both Germany's allies during the War, also had colonies in the Arab world. And the Grand Mufti didn't necessarily like that, he wanted Germany to fight for the liberation of the Arab countries from the colonizers, from the western colonizers. You had these kind of contradictions, but there was always this precedent, in terms of the Third Reich, with the alliance with certain Arab countries, and that continued with neo-Nazi groups, post-War Nazi groups in the Cold War period.

DE: You mentioned, too, that Skorzeny and Remer—Skorzeny working on the behalf of US intelligence—carried through some of these dynamics, and while I don't want to be misunderstood as implying that some of the leaders of the contemporary Arab world are Nazis, they were able to interface with people like Yasser Arafat or in some cases Saddam Hussein.

ML: I think from the Arab point of view, it's more like "an enemy of my enemy is my friend." That's really what's going on here. You could say the same thing about Manachem Begin and Shamir, they were also working with Jewish fascist organizations, prior to the formation of the state of Israel in 1948. In fact, even during World War II there were overtures from those elements among the Jewish groups, to Nazi Germany and fascist Italy, saying, hey, we can get along, we can work together, we want the Jews out of Europe too, send 'em over here to Palestine and lets make a Jewish state and we'll be aligned with you. I think those who issued those kind of overtures, from within Jewish circles, misunderstood the categorical nature of Nazi anti-Semitism, that would never really work, but it was again, the enemy of my enemy is a friend. And the enemy at that point, for both the Jewish fascists, if you will, and the Third Reich, was the British.

DE: You mention too, that Begin, of course, was identified with the Betar [?], and Yitzak Shamir, both of them by the way Prime Ministers of Israel, with the Stern gang, an even more militant group. The fascist third position, this is a form of fascism, one of the mutations, I guess you could say of that super virus, that incorporates parts of what have generally been regarded as an anti-imperialist, or progressive political orientation.

ML: Yeah. I would hesitate to say progressive, but again, because of the way things lined up geopolitically, it would be confusing to someone, I think, if you analyzed what the third position politics were all about on the part of the Nazis, it would seem like, gee, they seem to be supporting progressive movements, in some cases, around the world. And again, it's for very, very different reasons that they're doing it, it's not because they have an ideological sympathy with third world revolutionary movements, that the Nazis would support them. It's more like saying, hey, we're pursuing this anti-west, anti-east, anti-communist, anti-capitalist strategy, if you're going to do that, the non-aligned movements and countries around the world are your potential allies, even though of course the Third Reich was the ultimate kind of imperialist, for sure, and for them to pass themselves off as anti-imperialist is a bit absurd. But that's what they tried to do after World War II. The third position again, it's anti-capitalism, anti-communism, that would be the political point of view. And within the third position or the pan-European fascist movements, after World War II, they also had various factions and tendencies just within the third position framework. And some third position advocates, such as Julius Evola, the Italian fascist guru, if I could call him that, he was sort of a strict third position guy in terms of what he advocated, while some people like Otto Ernst Remer, he was also a third position guy, but within that he favored a European-Soviet alliance. Because Russia, it's part of Europe on the one hand, and it's also part of Asia. And if you're for a pan-European solution, in terms of geopolitics, than you have to figure out how Russia fits into all of this. And for some like Julius Evola in Italy, he was just as anti-Russian as he was anti-American, in terms of his politics. But for Remer and others who favored the Bismarkian approach, they were still third position, but they had a different take on that particular question. So, it's a bit complicated, there's different factions and different sub-groups within the third position framework, which is itself only one major geopolitical strategy that was being pursued after the War. The other, again, is that pro-Atlantic strategy based on the shared anti-communism with the west.

DE: Two other mutations, so to speak, of what Robert Griffin referred to as "the super virus of fascism" that you write about, and also manifestations that have made an attempt to reach out to groups not traditionally aligned with fascism, those positions advanced by Belgian Skorzeny associate Jean Thiriart and also Alain de Benoist in France.

ML: Those are two very interesting figures, and little known in the United States, even among those who I think track neo-Fascist groups. Jean Thiriart is really one of the most interesting thinkers to emerge from the bowels of the neo-Fascist underground in Europe. He was one of those, again, who strongly

favored a pan-European alliance with the Soviet Union. And he, as a fascist, is one who really evolved most explicitly towards embracing a national communist or national bolshevik perspective. Even though he was Belgian by birth, and lived in Brussels, that's where he was based, he formed a group called *Jung Europe* in the mid-60s, "Young Europe." And whereas he started out as sort of your typical white supremacist who favored Europe keeping its colonies, Belgium keeping the Congo, France keeping Algeria, he later changed and went off on what appeared to be a very, very different direction, where he, again, assumes this pro-third world, anti-colonial stance. Toward the end of the '60s he becomes a strong supported of Che Guevara in Latin America. Basically, his strategy was this—he said, look, Europe is being dominated, in the west by the US, in the east by Russia. What you've gotta do, to pursue a sensible pan-Eurpoean strategy, is to support Communist China, make an alliance with Communist China, neo-Fascist alliance with Communist China, so that China will strengthen itself, and draw attention from the Soviet Union toward its western and southern flanks. It will have to deal more with Communist China, and then, sort of thinking when, Russia will loosen its grip on eastern Europe. So, Thiriart was the foremost proponent of this China option, during the Cold War, among neo-Fascists. At the same time, Thiriart said, if you want to make the United States loosen its grip on western Europe, then we have to support, this is his thinking, Latin American revolutionary movements that were anti-US, and black power movements inside the United States. Again, it had nothing whatsoever to do with ideology. The ideology didn't mesh at all. It was all geopolitics. That's what it was based on.

DE: You mention also Alain de Benoist in France, who has taken some of this, not only anti-American, but third position mutations of fascism, again extending the super virus metaphor still further.

ML: Yes, Alain de Benoist is, again, a very, very interesting figure. He is French, and he also starts out as your typical white supremecist. Although he himself is is quite a brilliant man in his own way. A member of the MENSA society, an IQ that tips the scales. He becomes the founder and leader of what in France is called the New Reich, [says "New Reich" in French]. And he forms a think tank called GRECE in 1968. And initially they were putting out literature that was sort of like *The Bell Curve* type of stuff. You know, white people are genetically more intelligent. It was kind of your standard, typical, prototypical, biological racism, racialism I should say, that de Benoist was promoting. But he goes through several intellectual permutations and ends up at a very, very interesting place. And I dare say there's a good bit of evidence that suggests he evolved beyond his fascist roots and may not be a fascist anymore. But along the way, de Benoist, he does something very, very important, he develops an intellectual framework that provides fledgling fascist organizations during the Cold War, particularly later in the Cold War, in the 1980s, with they key that they need to unlock political ghetto that they've been sort of sunk in, and isolated in. Because one of the great ironies, while many Nazis and fascists formed alliances with secret service agencies in other countries, particularly in the west, so that were at sort of the heart of the secret state, at the same time they were politically quite marginalized. If they were going to go publicly flaunting their fascism, they would be seen as just, oddballs, or something like that. So you had this kind of paradox all along in the Cold War. And they tried various ways to overcome their political isolation. I talked about some of Thiriart's strategies, some were quite ingenious, but it was really Alan de Benoist more than anyone else, in my opinion, who provided neo-Nazi and neo-Fascist groups with the kind of discourse that enabled them to appear as though they were not really racialists or white supremacists, and thereby overcome their political isolation. And the great irony here is that, in so doing, de Benoist seems to evolve himself beyond the fascist position. He doesn't appear to be a fascist anymore, at least some people would make that argument, and I think there might be some credibility there. And they key thing here is his idea of ethno-pluralism, that de Benoist developed. He became, unlike some of the ardent nationalists within the neo-Fascist scene, he became a supporter, and a strong proponent of cultures without countries in Europe, nations without states. Like the Basque, or the Catalans, or the Lombards, or the Welsh, or the Bretons, so forth and so on, all these different peoples within Europe, all these different ethnic groups that existed long before the nation-states formed, and may in fact exist long after. De Benoist, in a nutshell, he said we have to support the diversity of cultures on Europe, and this idea of supporting cultural diversity was picked up by neo-Fascist leaders like Jean-Marie Le Pen in France, head of the Front National. So he starts saying things like, well, France needs to protect its cultural identity, its unique ethnic identity, and northern African Arabs, they need to protect theirs, and I love Arabs, from north Africa, Le Pen would say, and I want them to protect and enhance their own identity. And of course that means we have to kick them out of France, so they can go back to north Africa where they can maintain their unique integrity as a people. And that's sort of the cynical thinking. Well, that's sort of what Le Pen did was sort of vulgarize the thinking developed by de Benoist, who in many ways was quite progressive. Who's going to argue with the idea that we should protect aboriginal peoples or protect languages like Gaelic or Welsh, or the Kurdish language, and so forth and so on. There's nothing wrong with that inherently. But when you twist that into a kind of xenophobic strategy, that Le Pen did, that's where it gets very sinister, or cynical. And the reason why, if you bear with me, Dave, I'm going on now, but the reason why this is so important, is because it allows people like Le Pen not to appear as though they are racist or white supremacist. Because what they're saying is that they're just trying to defend their cultural identity, the unique identity of all peoples. You know, you can't say, well that's a bad thing, what's wrong with that? And yet the way it's used is very cynical and very sinister. And it makes for a perfect example of that quote from Roger Griffin, about how fascism, like a virus, has been able to mutate into new forms, so it overcomes the kind of antibiotics that people might try to apply to it. If what you're trying to do is say, hey, that's white supremacy and that's bad, you're going to miss your target if you're dealing with someone like Le Pen.

DE: It reminds me a little bit of how David Duke speaks about white people. Martin, on page 265 you write as follows, speaking of Helmut Kohl and his cooption of some of the neo-Nazi, xenophobian, anti-immigrant sentiment, "mouthing the neo-fascist catch-phrases, prominent Christian Democrats linked foreigners to drug-pushing, welfare fraud, and violent crime." That is a political battle-cry which will ring nauseatingly familiar to many Americans, or perhaps excitingly so to some, probably not listeners to this program. You write, one of the most important parts of your book, you write of mainstreaming of fascism. We've got less than ten minutes left, but that is very similar to the political battle-cries of people like Newt Gingrich, and the anti-immigrant, xenophobic aspect of this mutating virus is also something that common to some of the mutated fascists that you talk about in your book, such as Gianfranco Fini in Italy, and the Allianza Nacional, Jean Marie Le Pen and the Front Nacional, and Jorg Haider's Freedom Party in Austria.

ML: Yes, and these are parties, incidentally, that have gained tremendous momentum in Europe. The Freedom Party, in the last national election, took more than 27% of the vote nationwide, which made de facto equal to the two mainstream parties. And Jorg Haider, head of the Freedom Party, is poised to make to make a very serious run for the Austrian presidency. We may see a fascist elected as president of Austria in the not-too-distant future, which is a very sobering thought. And when you look at France, the Front National gains more than 15% of the vote nationwide. And we in the United States may think, well 15%, that's not very much. But when you're dealing with the parliamentary system, in use in Europe, that's potentially absolutely *pivotal* in the amount of influence that it could wield in terms of the composition of the governing coalition. Also in Italy, Gianfranco Fini's National Alliance, a direct successor to the neo-Fascist MSI movement, Sociale Italiano, is gaining about 15% of the vote nationally, and Gianfranco Fini, in several polls nationally, is shown to be the most popular politician in Italy. And there are other parties like this in other countries in Europe, Vlaams Blok is another one in Belgium that has gained a lot of power. It's the leading vote getter now in the city of Antwerp. So, we're not just talking about fringe, marginal movements anymore. Even though the leaders of some of these organizations were once fringe, marginal figures, once belonged to terrorist groups, and underground neo-Fascist organizations. They have since emerged to lead these mass-based, what would appear to be national populist movements, but in fact I think you could make a strong case to say that they are neo-Fascist movements. But of course, they can't advertise that fact, or else either they'd be banned, or people would

really wake up to the fact of what's going on. You're much less likely to vote for someone who claims he's a fascist, than for one who claims he's trying to protect your cultural integrity, and the cultural integrity of all people, even the immigrants who their rhetoric they are aiming at and scapegoating—scapegoating rhetoric, we know, which is resulting in violent attacks against these people. The anti-immigrant theme is absolutely key among all these groups, and it also spills over into the United States. There are direct parallels here as well.

DE: Hence, I think, the significance of de Benoist. Fini in Italy has, of course, his political party grew out of the fascists of the MSI and Mussolini before that. Jean-Marie Le Pen has drawn heavily upon veterans of the Charlemagne division, the French Waffen SS division, for his organization. Haider's Freedom Party, in 1949, an actual vehicle for the rehabilitation of Austrian Nazis under Hitler. One of the central points that you make, and obviously we've touched on some of the similarities between some of these neo-Fascist leaders in Europe, and some of the programs we're hearing bandied about here by the right in the United States. On page 391 of your book, you write of something that I think is central to the entire question of how far these people are going to go. And you write as follows on page 391: "These neo-Fascist groups in turn, were symptomatic of a much wider authoritarian malaise, according to Theodore Adorno, whose mid-century diagnosis retains its relevance in the fin de siécle 1990s. Adorno viewed 'the continued existence of national socialism within democracy as more threatening than the continued existence of fascist tendencies against democracy.' His studies suggest that the potential for fascism was invented in the fabric of mass consumer culture, which typically engenders weak personalities with high dependency needs which could be easily manipulated by commercial advertisers, and political demagogues. Seen from this perspective, fascism has persisted as a permanent possibility in advanced industrial societies, including post-Cold War Germany." Post-Cold War Germany is, of course, beset by economic problems following reunification. Russia and some of the other former Soviet republics following the collapse of the Soviet Union are beset by economic problems. One of the things that drove the German people into the arms of Hitler was the social dislocation produced by the runaway inflation of the early '20s, and then the Great Depression. I'd like you to ruminate, as we come down to the conclusion of this interview, Martin, about some of the possible implications for a mass consumer society, perhaps in the United States, of economic malaise.

ML: Well, in the United States, the economy seems to be stronger, if you accept the statistics proffered by the government. Unemployment seems to be relatively lower, certainly, as compared to Europe, where in Germany now, unemployment is over 12%, which is the highest rate it's been since the Hitler years. You could talk about the potential for fascism that would exist equally in the United States, in terms of the Adorno analysis. But where we see fascism I think being explicitly manifested now is in the US militia movement. And the irony here, again, is that the militias would insist to you that they are anti-Fascist. They would say that Hitler was a gun control proponent, therefore they are against Hitler. Timothy McVeigh denounced the fascist tyranny of the US government vis a vis what it did in Waco. So here you have, you talk about how fascism is able to mutate into new forms. An example is the militia movement, has actually mutated into an anti-fascist form. At least, on the surface. And that's a real humdinger, but think about it. I do think, the militia movement embodies a kind of unique, American fascism, that draws on a traditional isolationist appeal, that draws on frontier myths, a la Randy Weaver, that draws on kind of a muddled anti-big-government Constitutionalism, that also combines these with reactionary conspiracy theories that seem to attribute all the ills of society to a super conspiracy, a single super conspiracy going back centuries and centuries, they put all this together into one big mix and you come up with the US militia movement. We should remember what Huey Long once said, he said if fascism ever came to the United States, it would be under the guise of Americanism. And I think that that's what the so called patriot movement in the United States is all about. It's a kind of fascism, but they would never say that that's what they're all about. Yet, when you actually look at the origins of the militia movement, the role of the actual white supremacist/neo-Nazi element is very, very significant. That might be a subject we want to get into in another program.

DE: Very much so, in fact. I would want to add that many of the people in these militias are sincere conservatives, and of sincerely democratic instincts. However, a lot of them are badly misinformed. And I think the phenomenon itself, you have accurately described. What worries me is when I see the scapegoating of immigrants, or people on welfare, or things like that, something that is common to all of these people we've been discussing, and then if our economic bubble bursts, as it may very well with our debt crisis, at some point in the future, I am very scared by the way I think the American people would react.

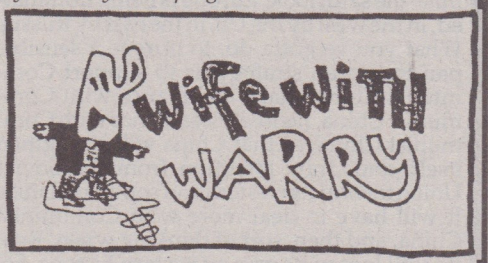
ML: I mean, fascism, obviously, historically, it has related to difficult economic conditions, in Germany and elsewhere. But you can't say that because of high unemployment, there will be fascism. What I would like to do, just closing, is quote a psychologist from Germany, Horst Ebehart Richter [?]. He says there is no magic number, at which, he's talking about contemporary Germany now, unemployment above 12%, officially, really it's much higher. There's no magic at which the tension becomes unbearable, says Horst Ebbehert Ricter. But I observe in our country, a sense of yearning for authoritarian solutions. A lot of people think that the increasingly difficult problems can be managed only with authoritarian means, as if an open society can't manage capitalism, and only a hard hand and an iron broom will work. I did not quote him in the book, *The Beast Reawakens*, because I did not come across that quote when I was writing it. But I think that what he says should give us all pause.

DE: Indeed, I couldn't think of a better way to of concluding this interview. That was sort of what I was getting at with the Adorno quote, and some of my fears as I looked to the future. We've been visiting with Martin A. Lee, the author of *The Beast Reawakens*, just released in hardcover by Little Brown Books. Martin, I want to thank you for your wonderful work and encourage you to keep it up.

ML: Thank you, Dave.

DE: For Martin Lee, this is Dave Emory, saying thanks for listening.

For more information about Dave Emory, his research, and his audio cassette series, contact: Spitfire, PO Box 1179, Ben Lomond, CA 95005, email - alcalame@ix.netcom.com, Web site - http://www.kfjc.org Attention non-commercial radio stations! Contact Spitfire regarding Dave Emory's weekly radio program.



I was back in the Bay Area recently tying up the few remaining financial loose ends of the sale of the label and to be honest I was feeling a bit nostalgic for my old home town, loony and seedy as it is. One afternoon I took a frustrating walk around Berkeley in search of a decent cup of tea, eventually winding up on College Avenue near the Berkeley campus. I'd developed a taste for that tepid beverage soon after I started living in London again, nearer my Morrissey to thee.

I feel a lot more at home in England these days, but there I was, excited University of California students milling around me dressed in their scanty spring fashions gossiping about sex and drugs and rock'n'roll as if they were the first group of youngsters in the history of western civilization to experiment with bohemianism. It was hard to keep quiet as they babbled simple-mindedly about their smug and complacent lives—who was sleeping with whom, the weekend's parties, where to score what drugs—until I remembered that Berkeley is also layered with the crazed detritus of several decades worth of countercultures which can be confirmed in the wobbly drunks and spare changers on every street corner. Whether they attend Cal or not, young people still flock here from all over the country to try and make their dreams come true, but the utopian communities they are in search of have either vanished or become squalid caricatures of themselves. I decided not to burst any illusions that afternoon especially since I have so many of my own, contenting myself with admiring the finely formed backside of an attractive young man carrying a skateboard, until a familiar voice interrupted my personal reverie.

"Well I'll be damned, if it isn't Larry."

I glanced at the two men watching me from the open doorway of a shiny new steel and glass office building and at first I thought to myself they were nobody I had ever known in any of my "lives," present or past. The two

wore expensive tailored Italian slacks and sports coats. Their shoes were leather Gucci loafers and their fine silk shirts were unbuttoned to reveal flashy gold chains. They had haircuts that cost more than the casual clothes I was wearing, but something about their youthful clean shaven faces was elusively, hauntingly familiar to me.

"What's the matter, Larry?" The taller one laughed with a harsh intonation I knew from somewhere deep in my past. "Don't you recognize me?"

Then it hit me like a charge of statutory rape.

"Spike Anarkie, is that you?" I asked.

"One and the same." Spike extended his hand. "But I don't call myself Spike Anarkie anymore. I'm using the name my beloved parents gave me, Duane Arnold."

I had never heard Spike say anything nice about his parents and frankly I had my doubts he had any. I favored the theory that Spike had actually congealed during a freak lightning storm from the slime and vomit and spilt beer filling the gutters of Telegraph Avenue as an archetype of our times. Gone now were the studded leather jacket painted and patched with every hardcore and grind band known to punkdom, the faded torn jeans stained with the complete range of Spike's bodily fluids, and the pit-worn lace-up steel-toed Docs caked with mud and dogshit from Peoples' Park. The ever-present 40 of cheap malt liquor, the badly rolled Drum tobacco cigarette, and the handful of assorted pills Mr. Anarkie subsisted upon were also missing, as were the 3-foot florescent mohawk, the 5 pounds of metal earrings and other piercings, and the badly inked logos of long broken-up bands smudging Spike's skin. Needless to say, I was shocked and I shook my head in utter disbelief.

"Clothes you can change and hair you can cut. Piercings heal when you remove them. But what happened to your tattoos Spi...I mean Duane?"

"The ex-guitar player from *Strawman* opened up a tattoo removal shop in the Mission," the former Spike Anarkie said. "It's pretty amazing what you can do with lasers these days. By the way, you remember Dirt don't you? Well here he is, only his name is Edward Jones now."

I shook the hand of Spike's longtime friend and translator too astonished to say anything more for the moment. Spike Anarkie was the scene's ur-punk and his exploits were legendary, retold with reverence by distraught and misunderstood punk youth everywhere. There was the computer glitch that named him Professor of Anarchy at the University of Minnesota and almost destroyed the entire system of higher education in the Upper Midwest. And who can forget when he did battle with the notorious poser Felix von Havoc to maintain the title of "punkest of the punk." When he got himself appointed as President Clinton's youth advisor he almost got the United States to invade England to bolster Clinton's sagging poll ratings. Then there was the time he was turned into a hologram by the mad computer scientists at *Maximum RocknRollingstone* in a bizarre attempt to sabotage my column for *Puke Planet*. Finally I found my voice.

"Last time I remember Spi...I mean Duane, Berkeley had been transmogrified into Toontown and you and Cheesy Badger were trying to destroy my record label because I was gentrifying downtown Berkeley. What's happened to you since then?"

"Simple Larry, I grew up." Duane smiled and I could see that he had fixed his broken brown teeth as well. "Actually that hologram thing and the whole Toontown incident gave me the inspiration for my career move into computer-generated graphics and animation. I had a lot of physical damage after I thawed out from that art piece with Felix in Minneapolis. That and because I was seeing transvestite blue bears named Heide I was able to scam some SSI. I used those SSI checks to start my first business—selling crack and ecstasy to the kids at Gilman Street—and with the profits from dealing dope I turned the garage I was sleeping in into a graphic arts studio. I bought computers like crazy and I started hiring the kids I used to hang out with on the streets for minimum wage. That was the beginning of Circle A Animation. I gave lots of great underground artists their first real exposure. Some of them are working for Pixar and Industrial Light & Magic now, but they started out with me. Their early work made me rich. Circle A Animation is now an independent multi-billion dollar corporation involved in everything from commercials to feature-length films."

"So you're not mad at me anymore for trying to gentrify Berkeley?" I thought I'd ask since I was still a mite apprehensive about Spike's spectacular reformation.

"Mad?" Duane cackled and then gestured at the sleek modern architecture above us. "Larry, I've joined you. This is my building."

"It was your building," said Edward, aka Dirt.

"That's right." Duane put a hand on his friend's shoulder. "I just sold the business to my junior partner Ed here. I'm planning to retire to a well deserved life of leisure in the south of France with my money."

"And you don't hold it against me that I screwed over a bunch of punk rock musicians and bands?" I was taking this one question at a time. Spike Anarkie had never been more than a dim bulb when the lights were on and I was not sure how deep the changes had gone that were responsible for Duane Arnold's surprising maturity. His answer impressed me.

"I've been accused of worse." He shrugged. "I can honestly say I've been a fair businessman. I've done contracts on a handshake and my word and I've been good to most of the people who worked for me. But when you get right down to it it's *caveat emptor* all the way around. Musicians, writers, and artists are incredibly stupid if they think they live in a world that's anything but 'dog eat dog.' So what if we're immoral capitalists or exploiters of naive artistic talent Larry? We also gave many people their big break and made many folks besides ourselves rich."

A little Latin no less and Duane sounded like he actually understood what it meant. I was shocked once again when I realized that the drunk punk hoodlum I'd known as Spike Anarkie for all these years might have actually turned his life around and become a responsible adult, much like myself. There was one last question I needed to ask him as a final test.

"So, I guess you're no longer a 'fuck shit up' anarchist living the chaos anymore?"

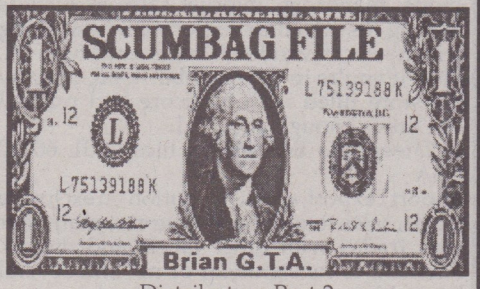
"No way." Duane shook his head. "I'm a registered Democrat. Total and absolute personal freedom sounds like a great idea, but I realized there's no such thing. I also realized that I was deluding myself thinking that by ignoring the existing political structures, I could somehow make them go away. I'm very big these days on what people call 'the radical center,' where I can claim to be radical while remaining a hair to the left of Jesse Helms. Really Larry, I've been following in your footsteps. I even took a few courses at Cal."

That's when I knew it was true and Spike Anarkie had really transformed himself into Duane Arnold. That wildly drunk, irrepressible free spirit of street chaos I'd known for so many years and shared so many dubious adventures with had actually grown up into a respectable, responsible human being, and I was his mentor and his role model. I felt a little envious because Duane had not just followed in my footsteps, he'd exceeded me in almost every way. He was secure in his obvious wealth while I'd only gotten a few million for the record label. A million doesn't go as far as it used to believe me. Still I was proud and happy for Duane and I reached into my jacket pocket for a pair of free passes.

"That's really great Duane. I'm glad you listened to some of the things I had to say and took some of my advice to heart. You know, my band the *Spudboys* are playing tonight at Gilman Street. Why don't you drop by and catch our set and we can reminisce after the show?"

"Ummm, no thanks Larry," Duane said, giving me a sheepish look as he handed back the passes. "Even when I was a drunk street punk passed out in a pool of my own puke along the gutters of Telegraph Avenue I had sense enough to know the *Spudboys* were shit."

Well, there you have it, proof once again that the ultimate registered trademark of being human is the ineluctable need and desire to constantly transcend oneself to make a buck and get rich. I've since returned to the fair boys of foggy London and my self-appointed role as punk's "elder statesman" in my columns for *Puke Planet*, and I feel very glad and very fortunate to be just that: rich.



Distributors Part 2

Howdy and welcome to installment #3 of my column, which picks up where we last left off with record distribution. Last time, I

mainly concentrated on the very basic interworkings of a distributor and how to avoid getting burned by a disreputable one. This time around, I would like to showcase what seem to be some of the more honest and reliable distros and mailorders out there. Now understand that no one can vouch for anyone else one hundred percent other than themselves. That stated, I've chosen the following based on the recommendations of myself (people I've actually dealt with and liked) and/or other labels I know. Another basis for choosing them is the fact the I've never heard a legitimate complaint of theft or attempted theft by any label they've happened to distro. Don't be alarmed if your distro doesn't appear on this list, as it could be for any number of reasons (other than you being a piece of crap conman), such as I don't know about you, don't know enough about you or just plum forgot you (Oops!). One thing to remember is that every now and then an honest distro turns bad (I know from the experience of having it happen to people my friends and I have dealt with.) and that one labels's experience with a distro can radically differ from that of another label. Another thing to remember is that if you want your records or CDs to get into the hands of the most people as possible, then you are going to have to deal with an array of distributors who utilize different approaches to selling your goods including mailorder, Internet sales, direct to stores, subdistribution to other distributors, trades with other distributors, stalls at gigs, foreign exports and so on. No one distributor can sell to every store and not every town has a cool store that will sell your stuff. Besides, different people like to do their music shopping at different times at different places in different ways.

Understand that I've been extremely fair when listing the following and have, in fact, included some people who I'd probably rather punch in the teeth than talk to for personal reasons. It would be in total poor taste and out of the question to unjustly taint someone as a crook just because I don't like their personality quirks. (Hey, I'm sure plenty of people don't like my (*personality*) either! So what?)

1. Sound Idea, PO Box 3204, Brandon, FL 33509-3204 USA
With payment upon your shipment's arrival and main man Bob's psychotically honest and straightforward attitude about business, this is definitely one of my (as well as many other's) favorites to deal with. Import/export, subdistrobution, sales to mom & pop shops, mailorder, Internet sales as well as trading his own Burrito Record's titles along with a select few other labels including GTA. Plus, if you're in the neighborhood, drop by the store filled with hardcore and punk. I can't rave enough about S.I.

2. Choke, PO Box 4694, Chicago, IL 60680 USA
Import/export, subdistrobution on exclusive labels, sales to mom & pop stores, mailorder plus trades with other labels and distros. Payment is consignment or net and several labels I know gave them the thumbs up.

3. Incognito Senefelder STR. 37A, 70176 Stuttgart, Germany
Strictly mailorder sales along with trades for Incognito releases. Payment is up-front, so please be honest with him as this guy is the tits (That's a good thing.) and comes highly recommended by more than a few people, including myself.

4. AX/CTION, PO Box 423623, Kendall Sq., Cambridge, MA 02142-0012 USA
Sales to a couple of local stores but mostly mailorder. Trades are made for AX/CTION releases only, as well as making some outright purchases and the occasional consignment deal. AX/CTION has been around seemingly forever and as far as I know, have never ever ripped off anyone, including labels I know and myself.

5. Subterranean, PO Box 2530, Berkeley, CA 94702 USA
Import/export, subdistrobution through foreign distros, sales to mom & pop shops and mailorders, a small amount of mailorder and occasional trades with other labels and distros. Consignment or net payment with all of my dealings with them, as well as some other labels I know being pretty positive. On a side note, they've been around since the late 70s but it's doubtful that they'll ever fold and they seem to go out on a limb to carry obscure domestic and foreign prog rock, industrial and artsy releases besides the usual punk, hardcore and garage.

6. 1000 Flowers, 5010 NW Shasta, Corvallis, OR 97330 USA
A small amount of export, subdistrobution, direct sales to mom & pop shops, mailorder and also does trades for Mutant Pop releases. Payment is consignment or net and their coverage is mainly '77 and pop punk. A few labels I'm close with seem to like them.

7. Meanstreet, 6481 Orangethorpe Ave., Ste. 10, Buena Park, CA 90620 USA
Subdistribution, direct sales to mom & pop stores and chains mostly in California but also scattered locals thru the U.S., Internet sales plus mailorder thru their Meansheet Magazine distributed free to certain locals in southern California. Payment is net and they carry punk, ska and "alternative" rock. Several local labels I know had good things to say.

8. Sounds of California, Phone (562)493-8888 Fax (562)493-8898
Direct sales to mom & pop stores on the southern west coast and occasional trades with other distros. Payment is net 60 and you "must call to get paid." I've known the owner for over 10 years and several local labels I know always deal with them and have no problems.

9. Active BM Active, WC1N 3XX, London, UK
Import/export, subdistribution, mailorder, direct sales to only a few co-op and DIY stores and also trades certain labels. Payment is long term consignment meaning it can sometimes drag out a little and they are only interested exclusively in anarchist releases and literature.

10. Crust, PO Box 8511, Warwick, RI 02888 USA
Direct sales to some local stores but mainly sells at gigs and also trades with other labels for Crust releases. Taking some small orders with payment being C.O.D., net or consignment. I dealt with him one time and he was very honest and kept his word about when he would pay me and I've heard similar stories from other people.

11. FFT Label, Asahi Plaza Umeda 1212, 4-11, Turuno-Cho, Kita-Ku, 530, Osaka, Japan
Direct sales to mom & pop stores in Japan, mailorder and possibly trades for FFT releases. Payment is upon arrival of your shipment or net 30 and this guy is honest beyond belief so naturally I love dealing with him and so do other labels I know. FFT rules!

12. K Records, PO Box 7154, Olympia, WA 98507 USA
Very selective about whom they'll carry (yet they have the poor taste to deal with me), K have proven themselves to be very honest and helpful to both myself and several friends' labels. K sells direct to U.S. mom & pop shops and mailorders as well as trading with other labels for K releases and pays on net 60 terms.

13. Vulture Rock, PO Box 40104, Albuquerque, NM 87196 USA
Specializing in oi!, street and '77 punk, V.R. does import/export, sells direct to mom & pop stores, does mailorder as well as trades for V.R. titles with other labels. Payment is net 30 and the few times I used them had no problems getting paid.

14. Revolver, PO Box 421215, San Francisco, CA 94142 USA
Import/export with sales to mom & pop shops and small chains, subdistributes thru other distros and also does mailorder and Internet sales. Dozens of labels tell me that they've never missed a net 60 payment and come highly recommended for their honesty.

15. Bottlenekk, PO Box 11794, Berkeley, CA 94712 USA
Recommended by at least a few of my friends. They do import/export, subdistribution, sales to mostly mom & pop stores but also a few chains plus mailorder and Internet sales with payment to labels at net 60.

16. Vital Music, PO Box 210, New York, NY 10276-0210 USA
Mostly mailorder and Internet sales. They also sell to mom & pop shops and trade with other labels for V.M. releases and possibly other titles. Payment is either C.O.D., net or consignment and were very honest when I dealt with them awhile back.

17. Vacuum, PO Box 460324, San Francisco, CA 94146 USA
Strictly a mailorder (no store sales or subdistribution) with what titles get carried based purely on his own tastes. Payment is net 60 though it can sometimes stretch out a bit longer as this is only a one man operation, but not to fear, he is extremely honest and you will get paid, my friends and I always deal with him, as he is able to move a fair amount of certain titles.

18. X-Mist, Leonhardstr. 18A, 72202 Nagold, Germany
Import/export, subdistribution, sales to European mom & pop stores, mailorder and trades for X-Mist and possibly other labels' titles. Payment is net 30 or 60 and consignment. All of my dealings with them have gone extremely smooth so I would not hesitate, along with many of my Kraut friends, to recommend these very ethical folks.

19. Soda Jerk, PO Box 4056, Boulder, CO 80306 USA
Direct sales to mom & pop stores in the Rocky Mountain area, mailorder, Internet sales, sells

at gigs and possibly (?) trades for Soda Jerk releases. Payment is consignment only and several labels I know say that S.J. have been very honest with them.

20. ROTZ, 2211 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, IL 60614 USA

Import/export (30% of all sales going to Japan), subdistribution of exclusive labels, direct sales to mom & pop shops and chain stores, mailorder and Internet sales. Payment is consignment (30 or 60 day statements) and net 60 with "absolutely no major labels accepted!" Payments to me have always arrived the exact second they were due and other labels I know can also attest to them being sticklers for being on time with payments. Plus, I have never ever heard of any label being ripped off out of the many labels I know that have used them.

21. Dr. Strange, PO Box 7000-117, Alta Loma, CA 91701 USA

Besides doing mailorder for years, they now have a store at 7136 Amethyst Ave. in Alta Loma. Payment is net and I've dealt with them for several years now, as have other labels I know, and they've always been extremely honest. I'm also good friends with a couple of bands on the D.S. label and they echo the same sentiments.

22. Panx, BP 5058, 31033 Toulouse, Cedex 5, France

Trades for Panx releases with other labels then sells direct to stores and mailorders as well as doing mail order and Internet sales. Panx only does trades and never buys. Recommended by several labels I know including one of my helpers.

23. Relapse, PO Box 251, Millersville, PA 17551 USA

Import/export, direct sales to mom & pop stores and mailorders, Internet sales, mailorder and also trades with other labels for release (their noise label) and Relapse titles. Payment is C.O.D., net 30-60 and sometimes consignment with a follow up call usually getting me paid which is common for dealing with distros. They're a good way of getting your hardcore and punk to some of the metal crowd as well as a few pretty exotic locals on the globe.

24. New Lifeshark, Bismarck 5, 45127 Essen, Germany

Some import/export, subdistribution, a small amount of sales to mom & pop stores and mail orders, mailorder and trades for New Lifeshark releases. Plus, they have their own store at the above address. Payment is net 30-90, sometimes consignment for German labels and have shown extreme honesty in their dealings with me and other labels I know. Good folks for sure!

25. Inflammable Material, PO Box 2544, London NW6 3DF, UK

Mailorder and trades for Inflammable Material releases. Payment is upon arrival of your shipment and I have sent some friends I.M.'s way because of recommendations of other friends with the results being good.

26. Vitamillenpillen, Burg. Loysonstr. 27, 6373 PB Landgraaf, The Netherlands

Subdistribution, direct sales to stores, mailorders and trades for Vitamillenpillen releases. Payment is consignment, net and sometimes C.O.D.. Several people recommend them including a distributor I deal with and also one of the bands on my label.

Well, that's it for honest distros this time around. Sorry if this list was incomplete but that's all the room and time I had for now. Hopefully in another issue I will list even more for labels to check out. What this means is don't write in to complain because your distro wasn't listed, especially if you've tried to rip off yours truly or any of my friends in the past.

Brian c/o GTA, 501 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Ste. 313, Glendale, CA 91202 USA

America needs computer programmers, and it needs them yesterday. We're talking about a lot of jobs—according to Virginia Tech, there are currently 346,000 vacancies nationwide in the information technologies industry. Since these guys run the nation's largest business—it grossed $865 billion in 1997—they can certainly afford to pay serious money.

If the usual corporate reticence to pay people for their efforts was the issue, there wouldn't be any problem. Alex Musil told the *New York Times* that he was hired straight out of college at age 21 by the Netscape Communications Corporation for $54,000. And the big paychecks aren't just the usual anecdotal bullshit, either. The Information Technology Association of America says the average computer programmer earned $66,500 in 1996—even where I live in New York City, that's major moolah.

In a rare example of government involvement in the real world, the Clinton Administration convened a two-day conference in Berkeley, California (no, I don't think he hit Gilman) to draw attention to the labor shortage. There they announced various programs to encourage young Americans to train for bright day-glo futures culminating with carpal tunnel syndrome and radiation poisoning. If we can't find 346,000 computer geeks now, our leaders asked, how will our collapsing schools produce the 1.3 million math whizzes Education Secretary Richard Riley says we'll need during the next ten years?

The experts, such as they are, say that our techie deficit can be cured by promoting geek chic. Microsoft is hawking a Jimmy Smits video (!) that touts the advantages of rolling a mouse to financial success. Netscape washes its employees' cars during lunch hour, dry-cleans their shirts and even takes its orders for the new NOFX CD. According to Reuters, Commerce Secretary William Daley, who is not actually the same person as Richard Riley, told the Berkeley meeting that he would work to "glamorize the role of scientists so that high-tech pioneers like Ray Dolby and David Packard are viewed with the same kind of awe as sports superstars like Michael Jordan and Bret Favre."

Uh-huh.

Somewhat closer to the Milky Way galaxy is Stanford's associate director of computer science, Eric Roberts: "We need a large technical class that is well trained to do work that is mind-numbingly boring." The cockroach in the toothbrush here is that [begin ital.] *smart people hate boredom* [end ital.].

As an occasionally smart person myself, I've had occasion to learn this firsthand. My math SAT kicked serious ass—enough to land in Columbia University's engineering school, anyway. I majored in applied physics with visions of a big entry-level offers dancing in my eyes. My studies involved a lot of now-obsolete computer programming, statistical analysis and subjects that can't be explained to normal human beings, like partial differential equations. Being reasonably observant as well as smart, it only took me a few weeks to realize a few important points:

First, my classmates were the dullest students on campus. They didn't read the paper, they didn't go to concerts, they didn't drink, they didn't have sex, they didn't watch "The Partridge Family" reruns with knowing irony. They went to bed early, often well before midnight. The Educational Testing Service may have determined that these people knew how to follow instructions, but for a conversation about the Big Issues, give me a psych major any day.

Second, assuming that all went well, [begin ital.] *these are the people I would be stuck working with for the rest of my wretched life* [end ital.].

Third, math and science majors are doomed to two equally-grim career paths—academia and industry. There aren't any jobs for aspiring college professors, and every single opening in the private sector is soulless, depressing and potentially damning, if you believe in that afterlife stuff.

Lacking the gumption to drop out, I stopped attending class and got myself expelled. A few years later, I ran into my old college girlfriend Laura on the street. She had graduated cum laude and was working at General Electric in New Jersey.

"So what exactly do you do?" I asked.

"I program sector models for the SDI satellite-mounted laser cannon," she replied.

"In other words, you spend 80 percent of your waking hours trying to figure out how many millions of people you can vaporize in a few seconds?"

"Not at all," she countered, "it's more like 90 percent. I work weekends too."

Shortly afterward I landed a gig programming Fortran 77 analyses of subscription data for a Manhattan magazine publisher. The job paid great, the boss left me alone and I had my own office. The work was moderately challenging, but I quickly ran into a problem: I missed my fellow humans.

I'm an only child, so I'm used to my own company. But staring into a blinking box all day, day after day, for months at a time, is enough to drive anyone mad. I found myself calling 411 to ask for numbers I didn't even need, just to hear the operator's voice. (Thanks to automation, that option doesn't even exist anymore.) Ted Kaczynski may or may not be bonkers, but he sure had that bit about tech-

nological alienation on the money.

Today's youth aren't unlike the hundreds of thousands who pursued scientific careers earlier this century. The difference is that engineers built bridges back then, if not figurative ones to the third millennium, steel ones across the Missouri River. They designed consumer goods that people used every day. Mathematics was more than a series of computer codes punched into a keyboard that somehow generated money for some nameless asshole a million miles away—it was a way of looking at the world that solved relevant problems. Who can blame today's 21-year-olds for opting out a life of meaningless drudgery?

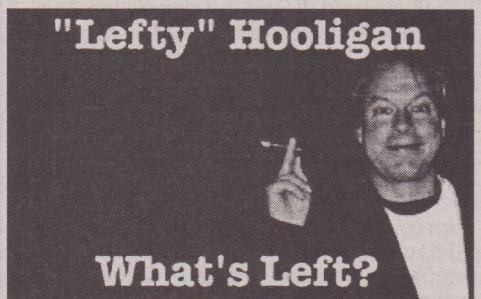
In the meantime, however, America has an economy to run, and it can't be much helped if it happens to be a boring one. Those helpful folks at Microsoft have just announced their "Skills 2000" initiative to find people whose abilities would make them good computer drones. What kind of individuals are we talking about? The company has established a web site (http://www.microsoft.com/skills2000/jobs.htm) containing a computer-related career aptitude test. In an effort to determine whether I'd be better suited for a slot in Bill Gates' megamonopoly than writing witty editorial commentary, I logged on, gave them my e-mail address and waited for the questions to come up. Then my screen froze.

Obviously there's not that much to worry about.

P.S. After much screaming and yelling and fucking around, my new book is finally out. "Revenge of the Latchkey Kids" comes out simultaneously in paperback and hardback, so order the cheaper paper back if your bookstore doesn't have it in stock. It has 224 pages of cartoons and writing, mainly about why America is fucked and how to make the best of it, and even to help it get even more fucked. I'm touring the sucker too, although as I write this I don't have a complete list of cities where I'll be. So if you know a cool independent bookstore in your city, please e-mail me and let me know so I can tell the publisher. A list of confirmed book signings will be available on my web site, www.rall.com.

P.P.S. I'm wading through the responses you guys sent regarding fucked-up childhoods, so please chill if I haven't gotten back to you. I will, I will!

Contact: Ted Rall, PO Box 2092, NY NY 10108, e-mail: ted@rall.com



My career as a terrorist was short-lived.

It was during the Vietnam War, when I was draft aged. Between 1969 and 1972 I was a terrorist for peace. I'd filed as a Conscientious Objector with my draft board, meaning I refused to fight in any kind of war. I thought of myself as an anarchist pacifist at the time, but I wasn't beyond fucking shit up.

We didn't use that phrase in those days, but the intent was the same.

At the terrorist "low end" I acted against the draft board itself. For starters, I burned my draft card. In the 1960-70's the Selective Service System had a rule that you could put anything into your draft file that you felt had influenced you in becoming a CO. So, during demonstrations outside the draft board offices I'd carry in an old tire, a dead fish, or a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and demand that it be put into my file because of its significance to my case. Then I'd walk outside and call in a fake bomb threat so that Selective Service would have to evacuate the building. The terrorist "high end" came when I tried to bomb my home town city council meeting.

It was 1970 I think. Maybe 1971. It's been over 20 years after all, and a whole lot of marijuana smoke between then and now. Definitely 1971. As I remember, there was a campaign by the anti-war movement to get local, regional and state governments to approve a "People's Peace Treaty" with Vietnam, the idea being that the US people would declare peace with the people of Vietnam despite the US government's military intervention. I lived in Ventura, California and belonged to an organization called the Action Committee for Peace and Social Justice, which had placed the People's Peace Treaty on the city council agenda late winter, early spring 1971. There wasn't a snowball's chance in hell that the council would approve it, so a small group of us got together to plan some contingencies.

Five scruffy high school and community college kids met in the office of the Unitarian Universalist church, which served as sedition central in our small community. I was an assistant draft counselor in the Quaker sponsored program at the church, and we'd used the church's mimeograph machine to publish our high school underground newspaper. We sprawled on and around the church office couch one Sunday afternoon—long hair, hippie beads, buttons with New Left slogans—brainstorming ideas on how to deal with the city council meeting while browsing through Abbie Hoffman's newly published *Steal This Book*. The Unitarian minister sat typing the church newsletter in a far corner of the roomy office.

"I know, let's distribute a flyer," Arnie said. "A real radical flyer exposing those assholes on the council. Ulrich was an Air Force Major, and I hear Peddleford does consulting for Port Hueneme."

"The meeting's Wednesday Arnie," Tom shook his head. "Three days. We don't have time to do all the research and put together a flyer."

"Look, they got the Peace Treaty pretty close to first on the agenda," Carmen said. "So we get there early and get seats in the audience. When they vote not to endorse the Peace Treaty we all stand and start shouting 'murderers' at them and fuck up the rest of their meeting."

"Naw," Michael shrugged. "They'll just get the cops to drag us out and arrest us. We need something that'll really disrupt that city council circus."

"Hey, listen to this," I raised a hand and read from Hoffman's chapter on "People's Chemistry," under "Smoke Bomb:"

Sometimes it becomes strategically correct to confuse the opposition and provide a smoke screen to aid an escape. A real home-made smoke bomb can be made by combining four parts sugar to six parts saltpeter (available at all chemical supply stores). This mixture must then be heated over a very low flame. It will blend into a plastic substance. When this starts to gel, remove from the heat and allow the plastic to cool. Embed a few wooden match heads into the mass while it's still pliable and attach a fuse. The smoke bomb itself is a non-explosive and non-flame-producing, so no extreme safety requirements are needed. About a pound of the plastic will produce thick enough smoke to fill a city block. Just make sure you know which way the wind is blowing, Weathermen-women!

There was sudden silence in our group as each of us quietly fantasized. When I'd been an adolescent, friends in the neighborhood and I had done the usual teenaged pyrotechnic shit; gotten our hands on fireworks, shot off CO2 cartridge rockets crammed with match heads or gunpowder, whipped up crude napalm from white gasoline and soap flakes, laundry detergent or ground-up styrofoam, etc. You could get all sorts of chemicals by mailorder in the mid-to-late '60's, no questions asked. I still had a pound and a half of sodium nitrate, and sodium nitrate will do in a pinch for potassium nitrate—the common definition of saltpeter—in a gunpowder formula. When I told my comrades this, everybody started speaking at once.

"Right on, let's fucking do it..."

"It'll bring the war home to those motherfuckers..."

"We'll still have to get there early..."

"I've got a coat we can use to carry it in..."

There we were, in the romantic tradition of small terrorist groups, only we were young shit-for-brains anarchists so involved in our petty mischief that we'd entirely forgotten where we were. Actually, because we had done so much radical activism at the church and in that office in the past, we'd assumed it to be a secure, safe space. In particular, we hadn't noticed an elderly woman enter the office to give the minister an article for the newsletter.

"Do you hear what they're talking about?" She whispered, shocked, to the minister, who typed merrily away all the while.

"I hear nothing, nothing at all," he responded, never missing a keystroke.

We learned about that little conversation much, much later.

At the time, we were dashing out of the office, and out of the Unitarian church, bent upon our rascality. I snagged the chemicals from my home and rendezvoused with the others at Tom's cottage on the Avenue. A joint started the rounds. Immediately we improvised on Abbie Hoffman's scheme by lining a saucepan with aluminum foil, in order to easily remove the final plastic substance. I used about half of the sodium nitrate and mixed it well with the correct proportion of sugar. Michael, the oldest among us and a short order cook at Buffalo Bob's Barbecue, did the slow

meltdown. Another joint got lit as folks snapped the tips off of a box of "strike anywhere" wood matches.

The final bomb looked like shit. Literally, like brown shit in a saucepan. We tested the foil before letting it cool in the pan. Yet one more joint passed from hand to mouth as Tom and I poked the match heads into the still soft plastic material. We'd decided not to follow Hoffman's description of how to make a fuse, but simply to pack in more matches. A mistake. When Tom slid one match head right next to another after we'd covered about a third of the bomb, the friction set off a chain reaction. Tom jumped back. I grabbed the shuddering saucepan by the handle and ran out into the backyard, where I tossed it onto the scrawny lawn.

For what seemed like an hour, but which was probably only five minutes, a solid column of gray-white smoke roared straight up into the sky, looking for all the world to us like a mushroom cloud. The pan rocked and bounced and exploded. An acrid smell filled the air. We watched helplessly from the back porch, not thinking to try and douse the raging smoke bomb with water. When it finally fizzled out, a spreading cloud covered most of the block. Wisps of smoke rose from the melted saucepan in the grass.

We were damned impressed. But we were also worried that the bomb's heat might set something on fire in the city council chambers, maybe the chair we intended to place it under, and perhaps injure somebody in the process. We were still pacifists after all. The thought of the panic and stampede that the bomb would cause in the audience never crossed our minds as we melted down another batch, deciding to place the device under our own chairs. This time we were careful to space out the match heads. Several more joints later, we had a hardened, foil-lined smoke bomb. We packed the match heads in cotton and placed the whole thing in a box before we called it a done deed.

I got the call at home that night from Tom.

"We're busted, man," he said, and then related the story from when the older woman had entered the Unitarian church office. An important officer in the church, she also played bridge with the wife of one of the city council members. She'd told her friend, who'd told her husband, who'd decided to set us up for an arrest the evening of the meeting. Only she'd also informed the Unitarian minister about what she intended to do. The minister contacted one of the responsible, adult members of our Action Committee for Peace and Social Justice. She had a pretty good idea who the hooligans in question were, and called Tom immediately.

The minister had warned us about the trap!

So we attended the city council meeting on Wednesday without our little surprise. Their ambush was clever enough. The doors to city hall were open, but when you stepped through you noticed that two cops flanked each side of the entrance on the inside. A cop and the fire marshall stood at the council chambers doorway searching the coats and purses of anybody looking suspicious. Meaning young people. Carmen still walked in, submitted to being searched, and joined the audience. The rest of us, not wishing to press our luck, hung outside among the growing crowd of anti-war demonstrators gathering on the sidewalk and lawn in front of city hall. The milling crowd got to three or four hundred strong, huge for Ventura, by the time an Action Committee member came out to tell us that the council had voted down the Peoples Peace Treaty.

The crowd started chanting. Those closest to a series of slats partially covering the large curtained city hall windows pounded in time on the wood as they shouted. Carmen told us later that the noise had been deafening. The council had tried to continue business three or four times but were drowned out. The police arrived in force, only to be stymied. We occupied both sidewalk and lawn. If the police moved in, violence might ensue, things might get thrown and the city hall windows, though somewhat protected, could still be shattered. The stalemate lasted for maybe forty-five minutes, until the city council adjourned for the evening and we dispersed.

As you can see, my pacifism was never polite or traditional. I had no problem with civil disobedience or uncivil disruption or even destroying private property. I drew my line at killing other people. When I got a high lottery number in the draft, one hell of a lot of pressure was taken off me. As a consequence, I didn't pursue my CO claim quite as vigorously. And things changed one demonstration in Ventura in late spring 1971. My home town's only anti-war riot. We'd gone for maximum militancy. After the usual evening rally and march down Main Street we sat down in the intersection of California and Main, below the old county building, to burn more draft cards. The cops, having redirected traffic for our march, let us sit until we got restless. A new tactic for the anti-war movement in those days was to march onto freeways to block traffic. As if by telepathy, all of us sitting in the streets headed down California for Highway 101.

It was your typical small town riot. A short line of Ventura PD in full Tac Squad riot gear quickly blocked our path. Slogans, insults, curses and eventually a few bottles flew from the crowd. The police started marching forward. About half the crowd retreated, but the rest of us knew that there was another freeway access just a block down. We dashed across a gas station and a parking lot, some cops tried to head us off, and that's when the tear gas started to fly. We fled through Plaza Park. Somewhere in that park thick with night, trees, tear gas, adrenaline, and all of my friends running from the police I saw a comrade in full tilt flight from a cop weighed down by his riot gear. Realizing he was losing, the officer hurled his truncheon full force into the back of my friend's head. He went down. The cop pounced on him, pinning him with a boot on his back and pulling his head up by his long hair.

I saw red.

Literally, red. The two folks with me said they'd had to restrain me from jumping at the cop. I realized, had I a gun, I would have killed that pig.

The point of this column is *not* to belabor one of the first incidents in my life that convinced me I didn't have the temperament of a pacifist however. I keep talking about terrorizing the rich, contrasting that primarily with the organized terrorism of armed struggle/guerrilla warfare which I consider basically flawed. This column is about the inadequacy of a particular type of terrorism associated with, but by no means exclusive to certain anarchist tendencies; the terrorism of individuals and small conspiratorial groups.

There's certainly a romanticism to this kind of terrorism. Both the New York Mad Bomber George Metesky and the Unabomber Theodore Kaczynski entered American individualist folklore for their deeds, real or accused. I felt that romanticism, heavy as pot smoke, bent over that smoke bomb, priming it with match heads, intent upon disrupting that city council meeting, though of course I followed the European anarchist tradition of the tiny conspiratorial cell. Russian Norodniki taking out the occasional Tsar or SR's assassinating Bolshevik leadership or Spanish FAI *pistoleros* shooting down their class enemies. All very romantic.

And completely egomaniacal.

Prankish as our act was, the five of us, this secret cabal of young idiot anarchists, intended to deliver the judgment of "our movement," the sentence of "the people" upon that reactionary city council. How fucking arrogant of us. How fucking self-righteous. I'm just glad that a good man-of-the-cloth saved our infantile left asses that day.

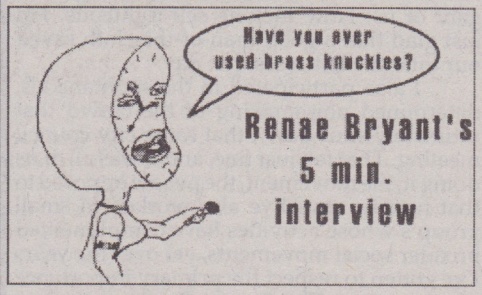
I also participated in the spontaneous, determined noisemaking of the crowd that ultimately shut down that same city council meeting. That felt just fine, and it was all of us doing it; the movement, the people opposed to that horrific war. I've also worked in small group's whose activities have complimented broader social movements, yet over the years I've gotten to respect the primary importance of mass action. The direct collective actions of working people are far and away the most valuable thing we have in our political arsenal. It's why I insist that small collective actions by that close circle of friends I'm continually advising you to form must be situated in and come out of mass social movements.

There's a bit of chicken-and-egg here. A mass social movement can encourage the spread of smaller collectivities, and the proliferation of such self-organized, self-activated groups can constitute a mass social movement. Further, I don't have a concrete answer as to how small collective actions can always be kept true to the intent of any larger mass movement. I want to avoid the equally romantic view that all working class action is correct simply because it's working class. Yet I'm not at all interested in establishing a central committee to sit as judge-and-jury of our actions. To paraphrase Rosa Luxemburg, the mistakes of workers struggling to emancipate themselves are worth any number of correct decrees from some "politically advanced" central committee. This discussion will have to wait for a future column at this stage of writing.

In conclusion, I may have painted a rather idyllic picture of the '60-'70's antiwar movement. There were many more splits back than there are now. Two of the main groups around in 1971 were the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam and the National Peace Action Coalition, both dominated by the Trotskyist Socialist Workers Par-

ty/Young Socialist Alliance and both committed to ending the war solely by mobilizing larger and larger mass antiwar demonstrations. My group belonged to a national coalition to the "left" of the SMC/NPAC called the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice, which contained a number of militant pacifist organizations and which believed that folks at mass antiwar mobilizations needed to take the next step by committing some civil disobedience. To the "left" of the PCPJ was the May Day Tribe, comprised of radical pacifists and politicized countercultural types willing to engage in street action, mobile disruption, nonviolent fucking-shit-up. I tended to sympathize with the MDT, and I had an interest in those to its "left;" Diggers, Yippies, White Panthers, Provos, Motherfuckers, Red Guard, Weatherman willing to engage in radical street politics, trashing, rioting, bombing, etc. Did I hear someone say something about unity on the Left...

PERSONAL PROPAGANDA... I can be contacted at hooligan@sirius.com. My book, *End Time*, can be purchased from AK Press (POB 40682, SF, CA 94140-0682) for $10. Keep sending me your newsworthy items and interesting news clippings c/o MRR.



So it's back to the 5 min. int. format for me. This month's 5 min. int. is with Bridgette, who works at an adult book store in downtown Riverside, California.

I bounded in expecting to find a man working behind the counter and was pleasantly surprised to meet Bridgette.

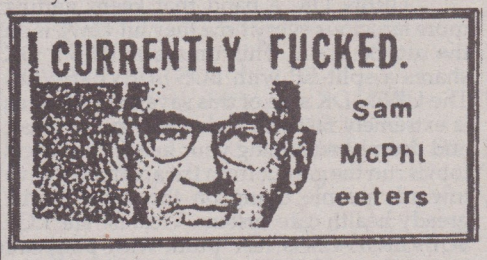
Before I asked her if I could interview her, I strolled around the small area. The place was your typical adult bookstore. It was stored with a vast selection of dildos, vibrators, lubricant, porno-mags, porno-movies, butt plugs, condoms, porno-cd-rom, s/m and b/d equipment and more. The adult bookstore also contained a coin arcade area where people could watch movies in a small booth. I have been frequenting adult bookstores since I was 21, when, quite embarrassed, I bought a very petite vibrator. Once I worked at the dungeon, it was common for me to stop at my favorite adult bookstore in Rubidoux at least once a week. I very quickly lost all fear of the male sanctuary, but I always wondered what it was like for the employees working there. As a result here is my 5 min. int. with Bridgette, the adult bookstore worker.

MRR: How long have you worked here?
Bridgette: I have been working here since the end of July.
MRR: What are the hours that you keep here?
Bridgette: I work part-time. I work here six hours a day, five to six days a week.
MRR: What made you decide to take this job?
Bridgette: A friend brought me in. He had actually gotten my cousin a job here too. I needed somewhere to work, so I came in and filled out an application and I got hired.
MRR: What was your first day like?
Bridgette: Very interesting! It was a new experience for me, being in an adult bookstore. I was shocked. There were so many things that I did not know about, being a young woman.
MRR: How old are you?
Bridgette: I am twenty-four. The first day body temperatures rose and they went back down.
MRR: So many months later, how does it compare? It is just another day on the job?
Bridgette: Now it's just like nothing. It's like , "Oh, we have a new video in. Okay, we have new toys in okay." It doesn't phase me anymore.
MRR: Do you only work during the day?
Bridgette: Our manager here is pretty good about that. There are other stores that have women working the late hours, which are 6pm to 12am or 12am to 6am. Our manager probably feels it's safer to have me work during the day.
MRR: What's the most interesting aspect of your job?
Bridgette: The most interesting aspect is noticing the different people who come in here. You don't expect men in three piece suits to come in here. The percentage of women who come in here is not that high. A lot of the clientle is men, some straight, some gay. It is shocking, you'd see a lot of these men on the street, lawyers, doctors, and you would not expect to see them in here, but you do. You do have certain people that go in the arcade and solicite themselves to other men. A lot of the women who come in are accompanied by other women or men. The women come in, buy their toys, and then they're out.
MRR: Do you ever have to go into the back arcade?
Bridgette: I have to go all over the store. I have to go to the back and make sure there is no illegal activity going on. I'm suppose to go back there at least four times per shift. I go back there at least three times.
MRR: What kind of illegal activity are we talking about?
Bridgette: When the costumers come up, we're suppose to tell them that there is only suppose to be one person per booth or in the preview rooms. If we do catch two people in the booths it is obvious what they're in there for. We do have the right to tell them that they have to leave the store. They can come back later but not when the same person is on the shift. Most of the people who try to solicite themselves are men.
MRR: Do the customers release themselves in the booths?
Bridgette: They're not suppose to, but they do masturbate.
MRR: Do you have guys that clean up the booths?
Bridgette: Yes, we have two really great cleaning people who clean the booths. They're male. We try to keep the place clean. The costumers are not suppose to be masterbating and if we see them we have the option to ask them to leave.
MRR: What else?
Bridgette: Well, this place contains so many sexual aids. If you are a female or a male and you're having problems with your sexual life, it's pretty much because you want to, because there are so many things out there to help you. A lot of people get embarrassed and there is nothing to be embarrassed about. Guys will come up to the door and once they see it's a woman working they won't come in.
MRR: So what is your most popular item?
Bridgette: We sell a lot of the movies. Some of the most popular porn stars are Janine and Christy. We have a lot of different ones. There is a girl that is from this area, named Sunny who is in a lot of the movies. She just moved to Hollywood. We sell a lot of dildos and vibrators, for both men and women. The extensions for men are very popular and the pumps. When I first started working here I would get really embarrassed when a man would come up here with a pump. I'd be like, "God, you need one for real?" Now it's like he has a problem or wants to increase his size. The stay hard moves fast too.
MRR: How does your family react?
Bridgette: Everyone knows except my father, who I told that I work at the exchange bookstore across the street. I think he's figured it out though because most bookstores don't open at 6am.
MRR: Do you feel that having worked here has improved your sexuality?
Bridgette: I think so. I'm more free with my sexual partner. Now he calls me the porno star.
MRR: Have you ever dated anyone that you've met here?
Bridgette: Yes, I actually have, but I've told them that if they are dating me because they think I'm going to give it up or get freaky with them they shouldn't even bother. The people I've dated are actually my friends and have gotten to know me.
MRR: Any trouble from the police?
Bridgette: We've had undercover cops that will come in and they'll be in the back for six or seven hours after only buying $2 worth of coins. Most everyone knows they are cops. I have heard of two or three occasions that the undercover cops have taken people in, because the guys have actually offered themselves to them. They say, "hey, do you want me to do this and that to you," the cops say, "sure, turn around." Click, the cuffs are on and they are hauled out of here.
MRR: Well, thank you so much.

I can now recommend this book store to others with confidence. Bridgette seemed very happy in her job and was a refreshingly fun interview.

So, a really funny thing happened the first time my new band, bliss, played. The other band named Bliss showed up. I was so pissed I was ready to get in a fist fight because these people had set up on stage. I came charging into the venue, only to be disarmed because the band was made up of 12-18 year olds. So, being that I am nice I said we would share the set. We had a good show, and renamed our band ALL OR NOTHING after the tattoo our friend Papa Smurf has on his neck. The real Bliss sucked so bad we didn't want anyone to confuse our two bands. If you think I'm just being bitter than let me further explain that Bliss' first song was a cover of Rage's "Killing In The Name Of." I do believe

that qualifies as suckage. We recorded three songs for three different comps. If you want a copy of our makeshift demo send a blank tape and a SASE to PO Box 251, Norco, CA 91760-0251. I would also like to give everyone my new website address: www.ontherag.net my e-mail is webmistress@ontherag.net. I know it's silly, but I can't help it. The three comps we're on are: 1) Noise To Go, PO Box 2113 San Bernardino, CA 92406, 2) Looney Bin Records, 9505 Wondering Oak, Bakersfield, CA 93311, 3) Smilin' Bob Records, PO Box 1473, Homewood, IL 60430-0473. Each of these label are fairly new and doing some amazing projects, so write them and ask them for more info. Okay, that's all for this month.



THE SOUND OF LOTS OF SHIT HITTING A LARGE FAN...

I've spent the last two weeks - the two weeks immediately following xmas - on the road to/driving around in California to play some shows with my band. Stopped at several sleepy Southern roadside grease burger stops along the way for gas, caffeine and urination, and noticed a small but disturbing trend of supreme fucked upness, something that I probably wouldn't have picked up on if I had remained stationary during those particular two weeks. Two out of three local newspapers, the small home town papers, that I came across featured on their cover a small box bearing some kind of military graphic and some variation of the term 'countdown to war' with the number of days remaining until we attack Iraq. I've seen his type of front page reminder thrice before: during the Hostage crisis in Iran (small graphic of Uncle Sam, "Day 326, free the hostages"), during the last time we bombed Iraq, and once a year at xmas time mall graphic of Santa Claus, "Only 8 more shopping days"). Kind of a happy warning thing—smart shoppers, rush for the bargains before the ugliness starts! What the fuck, I thought to myself during one of the rare moments when my fellow band members/hanger-oners would let me drive the van, am I doing driving out to the West Coast to play shows while the rest of the planet gears up for mass carnage?

What does it mean to be in a so-called punk band when, for the second time during the history of punk rock, the US is going to be in a war, a REAL war, one that lasts a long time where we don't just go in, bomb a mental hospital like Grenada or kill a couple of kids like Libya? In a time like this, isn't any effort put into punk rock a disgusting display of shortsighted pettiness?

But the more I thought about it, the more I came to realize that one of my prime questions about war actually isn't that trivial: how will punk rock be affected by the war? Will punk rock become revitalized? A useless anachronism? Bypassed and rendered obsolete by a new radicalism? Will all the patriot goon slime that have made life so miserable for us lefto bleeding hearts in high school and at the shows FINALLY put their money where their mouths are, join the military, and go die? How will the political activist/"peace punk" wing deal with the newfound responsibilities/pressures of organized dissent? Will the more established fanzines be able to make some sort of utilitarian wartime transformation to become outlets for information not covered by the mainstream media?

The medium of bands and records and clubs could easily become obsolete as methods of alternative expression but then again perhaps not: this is a war fueled in large part by American culture, of anti-Arab films and "Kick their ass/Take their gas" t-shirts, the overworld of high voltage rock and roll that lets our kids know that it's cool to kill or be killed to defend the quantity of stock in our shopping malls.

Before we left for the West Coast, I was planning on devoting this column to the gentrification of American music in the 90's, and some of what I was going to write is still relevant. The culture of this decade is anchored in the safe, slick presentation of a variety of previous musical threats, kind of in the same fashion that the Iraqi war will be/is a slicked Vietnam.

For example: Behold! Disco stages a triumphant comeback! Only now, instead of the music of the homosexual and black and Hispanic communities, it is the cleaned up electronic dance music that has been served as the pulpy lifeblood of the record industry for the last 5 years, as white as wonder bread, delivered to the sprawling suburbs of everytown by sweet cherubs Luscious Jackson and Chemical Brothers. Same thing with eclectic dance pop like former peace punx Chumbawamba. Same thing with rap. Once unwanted and unrespectable, hip-hop has gained new respectability with pre-fab cutouts like Cottonmouth Kings, the aryans who dress the part, talk negro, and will obey his corporate masters in ways never dreamed of by the only other straight-on mainstream (read: white) rap artists, the Beastie Boys. And, surprise, surprise, same goes for hardcore. Today's rebel youth are indistinguishable from the massed consumers of mainstream or diet mainstream or diet mainstream lite. The "generic" hardcore bands of 15 years ago that sang about Reagan sucking were never generic in terms of their relation to the bigger culture. Perhaps these bands were a dime a dozen within their own ranks, but the message they offered was in sharp contrast to the values of mainstream America. Ah, but now we have the hardcore band of the late 90's, streamlined, melodic or mosh (2 flavors, so I guess we shouldn't complain), not afraid to tackle the really tough issues like friendship and backstabbers and, gosh, FEELINGS... all goat dung that has been thoroughly trampled upon by our pals at global music entertainment headquarters time and time again. I'm curious to see what kind of an effect the real and immediate threat of war and a draft will have on the a-Politicals of punkdom. Hm.

The time period in which I'm writing this column carries the same kind of intensity and intense unpredictability that I suppose this country hasn't seen since the last Iraqi War or the Cuban Missile Crisis. News stories that would normally shock and amaze me float by in a tidal wave of bad news and get lost in the froth. FBI plans to "interview over 8,000 Iraqis in the US (hey, it worked with the slant eyes during WW2! Right?). Proposed Pentagon media rules which would restrict any "visual or audio recordings" of the wounded, or the disfigured, or the mutilated... freeing up valuable airwave time for "American Gladiators" and "Married With Children," I suppose..

I hope that by the time this issue is out I come off looking like some kind of hysterical, paranoid jerk and we can all carry on with our lives.

STILL STANDING UP!

Boston's DUCKY BOYS have an excellent split 45 out on Police Records with the PINKERTON THUGS. The DUCKY BOYS offer "Another Day" - a fine example of this great Northeastern street band's repertoire. There are strong vocals backed by an emphatic guitar, bass and drums. Flip the record over and the PINKERTON THUGS kick ass on "Another Story". These two bands are well worth your undivided attention.

The MAIN STREET SAINTS are back with a kill-em-all EP called "Johnny Bomb" on Haunted Town Records. This fucker sets a blistering pace right from the minute the needle hits the title song "Johnny Bomb". Next up is "Sylvest", then "Land of Our Own". For a blood-curdling finale, the MAIN STREET SAINTS have a strong piece of street rock for you. "Unleash the Dogs" is a BRUISERS type of anthem filled with determination. "All my life an arrow flight, aimed at this moment. We'll fight side by side, this our common cause. This is time to unleash the dogs." This release on Haunted Town, like the BRUISERS release "Still Standing Up" (HTR #1) represents some of the best street rock available. 7"s are $3.50 postpaid US/ $5.00 World. Write Haunted Town Records, 1658 N. Milwaukee Ave., Suite 169, Chicago, Ill. 60647.

The good news about the TEMPLARS LP on Vulture Rock? It's coming soon! You can also look forward to LP"s by PIST N' BROKE and THE UNRULY. Available right now on Vulture Rock is the 7" by the MOLOKO MEN. This is rough and ready gruff oi about patriotism and fighting for the Skinhead Cause. The lead cut "Clockwork Ultra-Violence , it's a way of life" summarizes the theme of this EP. If you liked the BOOT PARTY LP then you will want this EP.

New Jersey's THE OI SCOUTS share a split with SQUIGGY this month. THE OI

SCOUTS start off rockin' with "Another Battle", about the twenty year fight the punks have had. "A constant struggle that never dies, just a punk who wants his right. He fell through the cracks of society." Next THE OI SCOUTS serve up a tough punk tune called "Police Harassment" about an all too common plight punks experience. SQUIGGY's side begins with "Hang the Lawyers", a universal theme! SQUIGGY has a winner of a punk song with "Corporate". "Your living off the punk scene and your company makes us sick,,,We believe in the truth we spoke in our scene, we had our say, you took the truth and made it a lie, but we won't see things your way". Punk as fuck!

Windsor, Ontario's LAGER LADS have a single out on Blind Beggar Records entitled "Bruised, Booze and Tattooed" and it has some damn good street punk on it. Side "A" starts out with Lager Lad's Love Affair", but the real meat is waiting for you in "Moy Streetboys" where the LAGER LADS laud "Drinking All Night" and "Love of Our Land". Flip this record over and you have "On the Side" where the LAGER LADS extoll the advantages of having more than one girlfriend. The last song is a good one co-written by The POSERS from 1996 called "Rich Kids" . Blind Beggar Records took the liberty of adding a POSERS song to sell more records. Beware of the record company that puts profits ahead of the band's wishes. However, you should listen to the LAGER LADS.

NO ONE'S VICITIM has a brand new record out on Pelado Records - this fine Fresno/Clovis punk rock band has the goods. "The Chase" incorporates some of the best qualities of the CLASH with the street smarts of the SWINGIN' UTTERS. The title song starts the punk rock juices flowing in earnest. In "What Happened to You", NO ONE'S VICTIM queries: "What was truth is now a lie, this occurs all the time. Don't know why I put myself through this..." Side two opens with "I'm Still Shining" (I'm Getting Things Done) and then rocks right into "Gunshots and Cries": "The kid was fifteen, his guardian angel had flown. He's unmasked, all alone. When you looked into his eyes was he really ready to die?" This song has a good punk feel to it with superior lyrics. Give NO ONE'S VICTIM a listen!

Knockout Records is supplying an incredible amount of street punk/oi records to you knuckleheads.

One of the standouts this month is the band LOIKAEMIE from Germany. The new LP is called "Thr Fur Uns Und Mir Fur Euch." This crew exhibits some of the oi/punk qualities that are found in the DROPKICK MURPHYS and the TEMPLARS. It's all sung in German and the lyric sheet is also in German with the exception of "Remember", which has a refrain in English: "Skinheads remember, the spirit of '69, skinheads are united." This LP is populated by some very good street punk/ skinhead songs. I would strongly suggest you give this one a try! LOIKAEMIE also have an EP out on Knockout this month. This fucker is called "Oi! - that's yer lot" and it rocks! The band starts out with guns blazing on "Irgendwann" and continues the attack right through "Das Haar Im Bier". Side "B" has the title tune "Oi! That's Yer Lot!", in honor of the famous compilation by the same name. The last song "Dagaegen Sein" kicks you in the fuckin' head!

The next record we are featuring from Knockout is the iron hard oi of POBLERS UNITED and their EP, "Full Contact". These S.H.A.R.P. skins sing about smashing Nazi scum and facists in their song, "Steelcap Boot". POBLERS UNITED, the pride of East Gothenburg, Sweden, sing "Spirit of Oi!" on side two, and segue right into "Antifacist Skin". This band plays good oi and they have their politics up front for all to see. A very powerful band! Look for "Full Contact" by POBLERS UNITED.

Knockout has rereleased a great punk record by THOSE UNKNOWN from New Jersey, USA. This LP was previously available only on CD by GMM Records, Atlanta, GA. THOSE UNKNOWN have a fierce punk sound on songs like "Bound For Glory, Headed For Hell", "In No Time, Nor Place" and "The Power Now". This band consistently demonstrate that they are one of the most headstrong and indomitable punk bands in the entire country. Listen to the punk anthems on this fucker! Every song bristles with anger! The lyrics in "For All Commons" go like this: "No love, no care from a motherland so fair. A freedom given can be taken away. She'll provide a job and grant a decent wage with a badge, a gun, and a uniform make a militiaman for the state. With due process and a club it's a way to vent class hate." In "Bound for Glory, Headed for Hell", THOSE UNKNOWN sing: "You told me if I worked all my life and complied with the management that I'd be eligible for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, but I've been belittled and abused... We're filled with hate! We're bound for glory and they're headed for hell- you can try to stop us but nobody will..." This record is a testament to working class triumph over greedy capitalists and the police state. Clearly this is one of the better punk rock LPs in terms of consistently good songs with intelligent lyrics. Locate this LP!

Knockout has released two other LPs that were previously available only on GMM Co. CD's, TIME BOMB '77's "Protect and Serve" and PATRIOT'S "Cadence from the Street". They have their moments, but one must separate the wheat from the chaff. For you pogo punk types, Knockout has FUNERAL DRESS with their LP entitled "Singalong Pogo Punk". At their best, FUNERAL DRESS have a vague similarity to the UK SUBS. A new band on the Knockout roster is THE JOHNNY BOYS with the "Broken Radio" LP. When these guys keep it short and punk like "Burning Boredom "and "Drive- by Punk", it rocks pretty good. THE JOHNNY BOYS have a song called "I'm So Happy I could Die" that sounds like a young Mike Ness singing with the REGISTRATORS.

The last Knockout selection for tonight will be OI-MELZ and their LP "Oi-Stress" which is some sugar-oi in the VANILLA MUFFINS vein.

Your favorite street rock label GMM (Gimmee My Money) Records has a smash hit this month with THE TROUBLE. These punks come out swingin' the hammer! All four songs on this EP are good! On side A, the song "This One's For You" kicks ever- loving butt! This tune stands up alongside first rate songs by the DROPKICK MURPHYS or the DUCKY BOYS. Side two starts out with "No Regrets" and then...you are in for a real treat..."Saturday's Kids" has the fierce singing like THE OPPRESSED with good lyrics: "Another gang out on the streets, you can't say we haven't tried. All the cops and all the suits who want to push us down to their size. Our generation is here to fuckin' stay. Our generation is going to have it's say." THE TROUBLE are a force to be reckoned with on the streets! Get it! Also available on GMM is MAJOR ACCIDENT with "The Ultimate High". This band remains one of the most interesting and popular of the clockwork oi bands.

URBN DK, a band that keeps getting more ferocious every time they hit vinyl, is on the attack again! This time out URBN DK shares a split EP with LOS SUBVERSIVOS. The URBN DK side of this savage punk opus is extremely fast with relentless guitar, bass, and drums brutalizing your head. The lyrical topics run the gamut from the apathy we have towards people dying on the street to the greedy health care system. Vicious! The LOS SUBVERSIVOS is raw punk with poignant lyrics about subjects suck as "No More Police Raids". This record is brought to you by Small Budget Records in France - you better order one soon!

The aforementioned TIME BOMB '77 have an EP out on Black Hole Records from Philadelphia, PA with more hard-scrabble punk for you drunkards. The ode to "Cider" is enough to drive a man to drink! On the flipside you get "Rapist" and a cover of "Outlaw" by CHRON-GEN. This is worth checking out!

STAB FROM THE PAST DEPARTMENT

Straight out of the bush country of Australia comes vintage 1977 sick-fuck punk rock courtesy of JOHNNY DOLE AND THE SCABS. Spin "Little Lord Punk" or "Psychoanalyst" from this' Scab Animal 1977" LP, and you will be truly traumatized! This shit makes a good case for Australia's claim as one of the premier proto punk locales. Order this gem from EV Records, P.O. Box 49984, Austin, TX 78765.

As a final shot across your bow, we present DISORDERLY CONDUCT "Pass the Brew" on GMM. These blokes hail from Wilmington, NC and like to sing about drinking, fighting, and manual labor! Sound good? Give DISORDERLY CONDUCT a play!

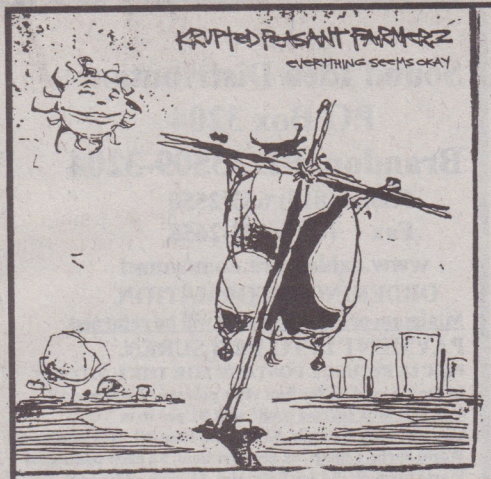
Till next time... See ya round... See ya in hell?

The Teenage Suicide

WITH NICK FITT

Nick Fitt Mourns an Old Friend's Death

One of the things about being young is that everything is so fucking intense. I believe that those between the ages of 11 and 21 experience a wider range of emotions, experience them more acutely and for longer periods of



• HEY, K.P.F. is going on tour this summer. We are going to Europe / U.K. / Scandinavia and we need more contacts. So if you can help with shows, places to stay etc... Please contact us as soon as possible. Also two of us are planning to stay in Germany to set up Farmhouse and to live for a year, any info or help would appreciated!! Call or write, (408) 227-0789. Thanks!

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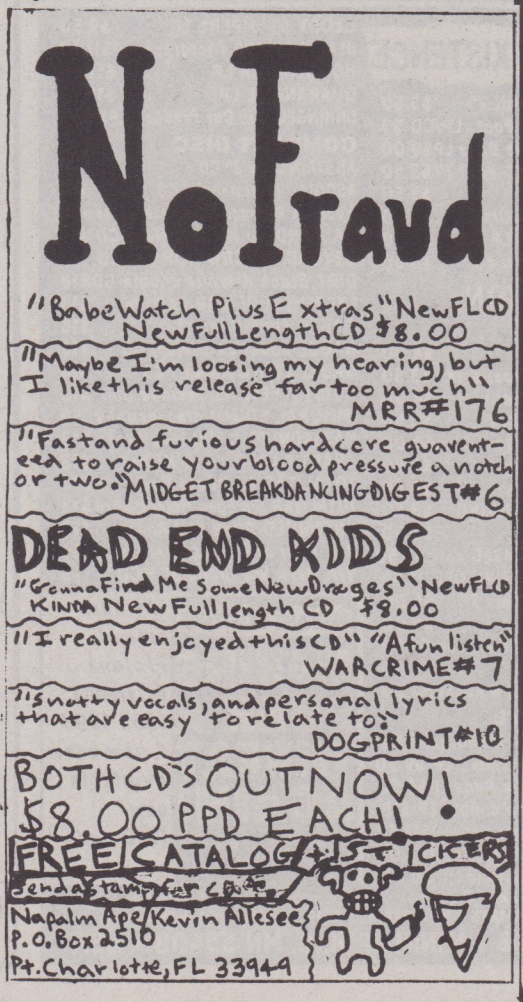

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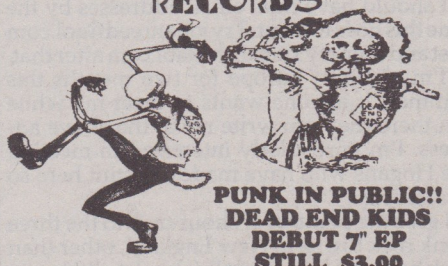

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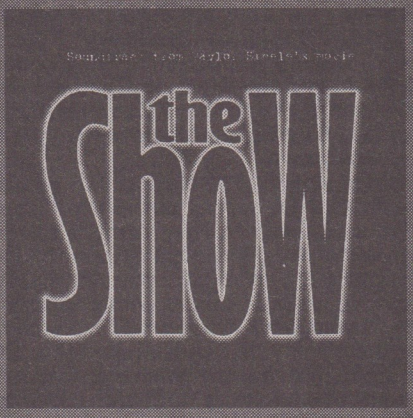

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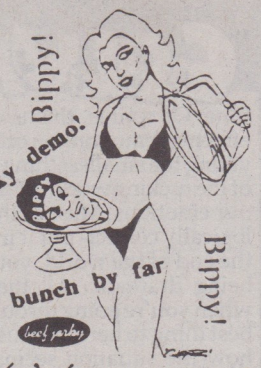

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time. Of course, this is not to downplay the effects of emotions on others, but when you're young the smallest thing can seem like the end of the fucking world. Older folks like to belittle our emotions. Most of the things they say are logically correct- put it in perspective, it ís not the end of the world, you'll get over it, you're being dramatic. All that is true. However, when you're going through the shit it ís not the best thing to here, because what matters is not how the situation seems to an outsider, but how the situation seems to the person in the thick of experiencing it.

I've been in love before. A wonderful woman who now goes to an art college in Philadelphia. I don't think I'll ever meet another person like her and I won't. She ís gone now. We still speak when she comes home and break and stuff, but things will never be what they were before. And I'm completely cool with that. What we shared was a moment in time which can never be replicated anywhere. I'm sure I will love others, but due to what I've said above I will never love anyone as much as I love(d) her. The best friend I will ever have is a guy named Ben who goes to college out in Oberlin that I recruited to the ISO in my exceedingly brief sojourn there. I think it is the worst thing I ever did in my life, because I basically think that the ISO is a reformist cult that apologizes for every backstabbing move that the labor bureaucracy makes and has no faith in workers, but I digress. Ben will always be my best friend. "That is completely ahistorical".î quips my friend Andy. He ís right. But as I've said above, we shared a moment in time which can never be replicated at any other time. I like hanging out with Ben. I try very hard not to discuss politics with him, because he ís committed to his organization and I'm committed to mine and never shall the politics of either converge on a single topic. It makes things easier, because we're never going to agree, but I think he ís a swell guy despite what differences we have.

I have a lot of people around me that I think are the coolest people that I've ever known to this point in my life and they're all around me right now. I've had tons of people go in and out of my life, but never have I been so socially happy as I am now. There are the freshmen- the multitude of skate boarding freshmen in their beat up cargo pants, Vans and Victory hardcore t-shirts... the freshmen with shaved heads who ask me to copy records for them and who I like to go bowling and to the Salvation Army with. The freshmen that make some part of me wish that I could have been born four years ago so I could go through all of high school all over again with them.

The freshmen are a lot like me. It is not an idol worship thing as one might guess. It ís just a relationship between friends. We get along because we're similar people. We get along because we can have fun together and watch "South Park" and listen to Chain of Strength records and be goofy. I feel fine leaving good ole Attleboro in their hands to wreak havoc with for the next four years. I want to see it all happen. Who's going to lose their edge and when and with what? Who's going to lose their virginity and when and with whom? Who's going to drop out? Who's going to college? Who's going to the military? I want to see these kids go through all that.

There are those in between. Those that came in after me, but aren't part of the hordes of freshmen that I've just talked about. There are those that have come in to share a moment in time with me, like the freshmen. They eat lunch with me and sit in the classes that I failed because I was smoking pot under the bleachers on the football field for the greater part of freshman year. They are those that have lost the spark of "freshmen-ness." They've become settled. They've become older. They've (and I use this in a completely neutral and unloaded way) matured. For better of for worse, they've become different people than they were when I first knew them.

The seniors. The big bad kids who run the school. I am part of this cabal of upperclassmen. I like them. They've made me more open-minded and I've done the same to them. Don't forget, I spent 3.25 years of my high school existence in classes with college prep kids who couldn't fucking deal with the fact that there was a kid with pink hair in their honors English class freshmen year. They walk around in the white hat, thrown on the ground some to make it look dirty. The flannel. The "coed naked" t-shirt. The Levi's stone washed jeans. The fleece vest. And the Reboks. They are some of the best people that I have ever known. They are intelligent kids who are trying to figure out their world. And while some of them only have a vocabulary of booze, touchdown, herb and date rape (oh wait, I forgot... they call that "scoring") it has been my experience that once you can dig beneath the surface of their post-Gen X anti-rebellion, most of them are some of the swellest people you'd ever want to meet.

In a few months the class of 1998 is going to head off into one of three different directions. We're going to school. We're going to the military. We're going to work. We're going to become different people. After about five years, we're going to be leading completely different lifestyles. We're going to be different people. We might send Christmas cards, but not exchange letters. We might meet each other in a bar, and run out of things to talk about in 15 minutes. We might become famous. We might die. But we will have shared a moment in time that is not erasable. We will have shared capricious youth. Sweet, lovely, irresponsible youth. We will have shared a moment in time when words like algebra, lunch, chemistry, pit party, bonfire, pep rally, course load, fuck, love, romance and El Senyor Bennet meant something different than they'll ever mean at any time in our lives. We're going to lose that fire that makes us walk from party to party. That fire that makes us get shitfaced and wake up next to some woman we wouldn't touch if we were sober. We're going to slowly be pushed away from that immaturity that makes us who we are. The untouchable part of our life that is somewhere between innocence and oblivion.

We'll no longer get carded.

As the 7 Seconds song goes "I want to stay young until I die." And I mean that. I know that it is completely impossible to do that, and I would question a 30 year old who functioned like a 17 year old. But I do. I once wrote in *Teenage Suicide* that I was scared of death. I can't decide if losing my youth scares me more of less than that.

I'm going to make a toast to my youth. I'm going to drink to my high school years. I'm going to offer the dying old boy a smoke. I'm going to hold his hand as he ís on life support and read Catcher in the Rye to him. I'm going to sing him Irish Rebel songs. I'm going to listen to what he has to say to me. About half existent bands. About the mall. About women, many, many women that he dry-humped on the couch in his basement while some movie played that served to make his parents think something else was going on. I'm going to listen to him tell me about the anger and the frustration he felt in his prime. I'm going to listen to him tell me what it is like to die. I'm going to go to his funeral and lay flowers on his grace and give the eulogy. And when it ís over, I'm going to drink to my dead youth. I'm going to get blind, stinking drunk until I can't remember my own name, until I forget that I lost something. And when that is all over, I am going to forget that he ever existed.

I raise my glass to the bloated semi-corpse of the youth of the class of 1998. You certainly deserve it. I'd like to say I like entering the world of maturity with you, but I donít. However, I wouldnít give up what we had together for the world.

Here is to you, youth. You will be missed.

ENDNOTES:

1. You can write me at 404A South Main Street, Attleboro, MA 02703.
2. Waste of Space tapes are available from Ike Bizatch at 37 Fisher Ave, Attleboro, MA 02703. I think we have a plethora of them, but if you want to make sure, call him at (508)222-5361. We should have a CD called Nick Fitt Goes West coming out fairly soon. It's $6, and don't blame me for that. We also want shows anywhere we can get them.
3. I should have dual email addresses by the time this goes to print. Try johanreed@aol.com first and then try xnickfittx@aol.com after that.
4. I'm going to Europe for two months this summer. If anyone wants to meet me while I'm there they can write me at the above address. I'm particularly interested in meeting the Hogans who have made my stint here so interesting.
5. I give the phattest of shout-outs to the three punk rock towns in New England, other than Attleboro (he-he)- Lowell (ahh, I will always miss Chad, his girlfriend who's name I don't remember, Tim and Michaela [you're still rad even tho you sent me psycho comic book letters]), Sudbury (home of Peter Noyes, Tim Mato, Maggie Lee and Heidi El Camino) and Woonsocket (what else do I need to say about the Woon?)

"Hey, P.J.," I say to my pal, who is seated next to me on the couch, while I'm playing Duke Nukem on the PlayStation, "Ya

wanna go out and get a beer or something?"

P.J. just looks at me with that look. That look where he tilts his head, and stares at me like I'm crazy.

"You know, a beer," I explain, "a Budweiser, or Grolsh."

I like Grolsh. Started drinking it in eleventh grade. It has those tops that you can reseal, so it stays good in your locker.

P.J. says nothing. I guess I'm getting the silent treatment.

"Okay," I say, "we're going out."

And we do.

Once outside, we take a walk to the corner deli, and I get a Miller. It was either that, or Coors Silver Bullet. And that's pussy beer.

Outside again, P.J. and I take a walk to the local park, and sit on a bench there. I sip my Miller, and P.J. checks out the local action. Lots of women are walking around in their skirts and tennis shoes. It's just past five, and the evening rush has begun.

"What do ya think of her?" I ask P.J., pointing to a girl wearing a nice tan pants suit, with Nikes. She has long brownish hair, rosy cheeks, large green hoop earrings, and a nice butt.

P.J. says nothing, but looks at her. His head follows her as she walks past us. He just stares at her, then begins to pant.

"Put your tongue in your mouth," I say, "don't be so obvious."

But P.J. ignores me, and does the same thing when a blonde with a low cut sweater walks by.

"The art to watching women," I explain to my pal as I sip my beer, "is to not be so damn conspicuous. Look like you are looking at something else. Maybe reading the paper or something. But if you just stare at them, they'll know!".

P.J. again just looks at me like I'm nuts. So I ignore him and concentrate on my Miller.

A few minutes later we spot a stunning brunette across the street. She's wearing a green overcoat, tight jeans, and eyes as blue as Windex. She's hot.

"Whoa," I say.

P.J. says nothing. He just starts panting again. Heavy.

Suddenly the brunette spots us and smiles. Then she crosses the street and starts to walk toward us. I feel my heart start to beat fast, and my hand starts to sweat even though I'm grasping a cold beer. P.J. starts with his tongue again.

"Hi guys," says the brunette as she finishes crossing the street, and enters the small park where we are seated.

"Um, hi," I say, sheepishly.

"You are so cute!" she says, and then a big smile crosses her face.

"Thank you," I say, beginning to blush.

"Not you," she says, then points to P.J., "him!"

I look at P.J. It's like the hundredth time this has happened. Chicks spot us, then they go for P.J. Even though he pants with his tongue hanging out.

I take a good look at my pal, with his dark brown eyes, curly facial and body hair, and nubby tail. He's a Yorkshire Terrier. So what? He's fucking three pounds. And he gets more chicks in one day then I could get in a lifetime. This isn't punk rock. But let me back up a bit.

About six months to a year ago I started whining a lot that I wanted a puppy. Really bad. Wendy got me a virtual pet, one of the Japanese things, and it died. But not before it turned into a chicken, a lizard, and Henry Rollins. A head with a thick neck.

"You can't take care of a virtual pet, how can you expect to take care of a real dog?" she asked me.

"It's different," I explained, "virtual pets are tougher than real animals. They're Japanese."

Wendy asked me what the fuck I was talking about and I admitted I didn't know. But that that excuse sounded good.

"Well," she said, "maybe one day you can have a real dog."

"When?" I asked her, "You always say that! I'm all grown up now, I think I deserve a dog!"

"We'll see," she said.

And for months I bugged her for one.

Then came my birthday. Well, a few days before it, anyway.

Nick, my stepdad, was over, and we were playing Dark Forces on The PlayStation. The door bell rang, and I went to answer it. It was most likely Wendy, and most likely she didn't have her keys, because key-loss runs in her family.

I opened the door and there stood Wendy, and our pal, Allyson, who is way punk rock.

I held the door open, and they both walked in. I then went back to the couch and continued to show Nick how to shoot Storm Troopers so they scream "arrgh!" and die.

Wendy and Allyson walked over to us, and Wendy tried to hand me a shoe box. Well, a sneaker box. Converse.

"Take this box, George," she said, non chalantley, "it's something I found for you." Then she handed me the box. Or tried to.

I told her I was busy killing Darth Vader's troops on an alien moon, and that I'd take it later.

"Take it now!" she exclaimed.

I looked at her and Allyson. Allyson had her hands on her hips, and looked pissed. So did Wendy.

"Put the box down, and I'll take it later," I said, as I shot a Storm Trooper right between the fucking eyes. He yelled, called me "Rebel Scum", then died.

Wendy then forced the box into my hands, making me drop the PlayStation controller.

"All right," I said, pissed.

I held the box and looked at Wendy. It contained Converses. And as much as I think they are cool sneakers, I can't wear them because my feet are flat. She'd be better off them to Norb.

Then the box moved.

In my hands.

Suddenly I felt my heart begin to race. The last time something moved like that was when I went to move a trash bag outside my old apartment when I was really drunk, after a Ramones show. The bag moved in my arms, then a huge rat jumped out, landed on my shoulder, squealed, and then hauled ass down the street.

So I was kinda hesitant to open the box.

"Aren't ya gonna open it?" asked Allyson, with her cute Brooklyn accent.

I looked at her, and Wendy, in shock. All I could think of, was that there was a live rat in this box, and when I opened it, it would bite off my nose. The biggest target in sight.

"Open it," said Nick.

I looked at all three of them. It was a conspiracy. They were all out to get me. I knew it. I just wasn't sure until now. They wanted me to get rabies so I could foam at the mouth like Cujo, then get locked up in Bellview, where I'd meet a large Indian, who would eventually suffocate me, then free himself.

The box moved again.

My heart was now racing faster than Mario Andretti, or that little monkey racer, Diddy-Kong. I put the still unopened box down on the couch, and something popped it's head out.

It had brown eyes, dark hair, and teeth. And it had a red ribbon around it's neck. They'd given me a rodent.

"Well?" said Allyson, looking at me with her hands still on her hips.

I didn't know what to say, so I looked at the thing in the box again. It wasn't a rat. It was a dog. And it was wagging it's nubby tail.

"A puppy?" I said, in shock.

"Yup," said Wendy, smiling.

"A puppy?" I repeated, still in shock.

"That's what it is," said Allyson, "and boy was he hard to take care of at my house! Devil Dog. Hound from Hell!"

"A puppy for me?" I said, again.

"Yes it is, George," said Nick.

"A puppy?" I repeated again. I was obviously in shock.

It jumped out of it's box and started to run around the couch. I just stared at it. I couldn't believe it. A puppy. In our house. I wanted to play Dark Forces again. Some kind of reality.

It continued to wag it's nub, and run around the couch.

"Aren't ya gonna pick him up?" asked Wendy.

I was kind of afraid to. What if he bit off my nose.

"George," said Nick, "pick up the puppy!"

I bent over and picked it up. It licked my hands and then my face. I looked closely at it, and suddenly began to feel tears well up behind my eyes. Wendy had gotten me a puppy! A real dog! I was a grown up now! Punk Rock!

Over the next couple of days we played the name game with the puppy. Also the sleeping in the crate and crying all night game. And the pooping and peeing in the apartment game. The dog won every time.

First his name was Sneaker. Because he came in a Converse sneaker box. Hey, it was better, than "Chuck Taylor". Then it was Lucky. From 101 Dalmatians. Or the drummer of The Circle Jerks. But that didn't stick either. He just didn't seem like a Lucky.

Then it was Pepper, Coco, Brownie, Killer, Moose, Mugger, Johnny, Joey, Dee Dee, Marky, Tim, Jello, Ben, Norb, Mykel, Stiv, Cheetah, Sid, Blag, Todd, Joe, Sean, and

Mushy Tushie Poo-Poo Boy. That was Allyson's idea.

But finally we decided on Scooter. Because he couldn't walk right yet, and his little butt seemed to race faster than his front end.

We also decided on P.J. Which stands for Pussy Junior. Named after me, Pussy Senior.

And it's good we came up with a name, because it was time for his first vet visit. When I took him in, I felt like a proud Dad. And Wendy, a mom. The vet looked him over, and as he held my son, I held my breath. I was worried. Turns out he's okay, but has a little bronchitis. Then the vet gave us a bill. Wow. It really is like having a kid.

The puppy and I soon became great friends, watching television, listening to punk albums, and eating together. We also took long walks and met lots of our neighbors. We were now part of the local dog club.

Then I had a couple of gigs with the band out of town. I wanted to cancel the shows, and stay home with P.J., but knew everyone would be disappointed. So I went and played. The whole time I bitched to my band, and our sales-girl pal, Monica, that I missed P.J. They all called me a pussy, and told me to be more punk rock. At our show in Philly, Monica made a sign that said, "I Love P.J." and stuck it on the back of my leather jacket. All night people were asking me who P.J. was and I told them he was my puppy. It didn't even occur to me how they knew the name P.J. I was in puppy heaven.

"You are the cutest thing I've ever seen," said the brunette, to P.J.

P.J. just wagged his nubby tail, and licked her hands as she caressed his tiny head.

"You are so sweet," she cooed, and the dog ate it up, jumping up on his hind legs and doing that little puppy dance.

"What's his name?" she asked.

"Oh, now you talk to me," I said, snidely.

I was tired of being ignored for a puppy. Everyone looked at him and played with him. Me? I was just his servant. The guy who took him around. His chauffeur. His butler. His poop cleaner.

"So?" she asked.

"P.J., his name is P.J." I said.

"Well," she said to the dog, "you certainly are a cute puppy, P.J.! What's your dad's name?"

P.J. just licked and danced around. He hadn't mastered the English language yet.

"I'm George, punk rock!" I said to the girl fondling my puppy.

"I'm Andrea," said the girl with the glass-cleaner eyes.

She then told me it was great meeting me and P.J.

An hour later, after she'd told me her whole life story, she asked when she could see P.J. and I again.

If I'd known it was this easy to meet girls with a dog, I'd have never picked up a guitar.

Take My Life, Please.

Endnotes:

1. furygeo@aol.com is the E-male address, Tabb, P.O. Box 2044, Canal Street Station, NY, NY, 10013 is the snail-male address. And check out the Furious George website at http://www.edgeglobal.com/jason/furious.html

2. Got lots of good records...Dirt Bike Annie's new one, The Regan Youth thing on NRA, the Nowhere Fast CD, Cletus, Kung-Fu Monkeys, Dead End Kids, and a comp. called "Best Of The Best", plus plenty more.

3. In very sad news, Joe from F.Y.P., aka, Stoots, passed away very recently. I wrote lots about him last month, and will write more about him very soon. He was like the nicest guy I ever met, and I will miss and love him forever.

I didn't originally intend to write a column for this issue, but Jack Rabid raised several points in his column that demanded an immediate response. In fact, a few others have made similar criticisms in a far more irrational and hostile way—hello, Steve A.—so I'm glad the opportunity has presented itself to offer a last-minute rebuttal.

First off as Jack noted, MRR is a punk/hardcore fanzine. We are the fans who put it out, and the magazine reflects our passionate interests. As such, we are under no obligation whatsoever to cover those forms of music which we have no interest in (Just as we have no obligation to print or promote white supremacist garbage). The onus of covering other musical genres falls upon the fans of those genres. If Jack and others are so concerned about the likes of commercially-oriented outfits like BIG COUNTRY and the SMITHS. or art-damaged groups like DEBT OF NATURE and the XX COMMITTEE, then it's up to *them* to do something about it. No one would think of criticizing *Down Beat* for not covering SLUGGO, so why turn around and attack us for not covering the GO-BETWEENS?

Second, despite our focus on hardcore punk, we do cover (and promote) other forms of alternative music that have a garage aesthetic. To reiterate what I've said in a number of other contexts, I personally like many types of music besides punk (though I don't think MRR is the right place to cover many of them). More relevantly, MRR's reviewers have given strong reviews to all sorts of bands that don't fit narrowly into the hardcore or punk categories—BLACK HUMOR, DA, DRED FOOLE & THE DIN, MR. EPP, the OVEN-MEN, WHOOM ELEMENTS, the BANGS, PLASTICLAND, the LEOPARD SOCIETY, the "Sub Pop 5" cassette, S.P.K., the 39 CLOCKS, the MUTANTS, SILVER ABUSE, the THROBBERS, and the list goes on and on and on—and we've made a concerted effort to interview or otherwise cover bands as ideologically and musically diverse as the MINUTEMEN, the WIPERS, the EFFIGIES, SLEEPING DOGS, the CHURCH POLICE, the CRUCIFUCKS and the BUTTHOLE SURFERS. This should provide more than enough proof (for those interested in the truth) that we are *not* against variation or experimentation in *principle.* Although there *are* certain limits to our tastes—most of us hate unstructured noise, jazz, and heavy metal from a musical standpoint—we reserve most of our venom for so-called punk/HC groups that espouse reactionary values and former punk bands that are compromising to achieve Rock stardom or *regressing* into hoary old genres of Rock. These criticisms are totally in line with our political orientation and our perspective on the debilitating effects of the corporate music business, as well as our visceral revulsion against the commercial schlock we've been forced to endure for the past twenty or more years.

Third, it's certainly not MRR's fault that bands which are peripheral to the "hardcore" scene turn to underground punk institutions to get some distribution and recognition—it's because they haven't been able to get any coverage or help through regular music industry channels. Magazines like *Boston Rock* and *New York Rocker* supposedly exist(ed) to give such groups exposure, so blame *them* for the problem. We are *doing* our self-appointed job of promoting the international punk scene.

Fourth, Jack seems to hold us responsible for "genericizing" the current punk scene, because our views are supposedly mirrored in a series of chain-reaction reviews that have the effect of causing new bands to conform to previously established conventions. One may raise two objections to this argument.

In the first place, I would say that he's greatly exaggerated our influence. We receive hundreds of punk zines from all over the world, and very few of them blindly parrot the MRR "line" (though many independently come to similar conclusions). If we had as much impact as Jack attributes to us, how can the popularity of would-be rock gods like G.B.H. and SOCIAL DISTORTION be explained, not to mention the ugly reappearance of neo-Nazi chic in Boston and New York?

In the second place, he's overlooked the source of generic music—a lack of Imaginatlon among the bands themselves. This has aIways been a problem with highly stylized, purist forms of rock n roll, from the rockabilly era to the present. For example, there was no MRR around to give coverage to 60's garage punk bands, yet despite the lack of equivalent cross-fertilizing publicity, groups in Peoria ended up sounding very much like groups in Stockton, San Antonio, and Albany. The reason is simple—they tended to copy the material and stylistic devices of the leading punk combos at the time, just as today's fledgling bands emulate BLACK FLAG and MINOR THREAT. So let's keep things in perspective!

Fifth, I find it particularly ironic that Jack would raise this complaint about our narrow-mindedness, since we've suggested that he help broaden our coverage by 1) writing an extensive article about the 77-8 punk explosion (like the one Chip Lamey contributed on 60's punk) which he decided not to do because he'd lost most of his interest in modern hardcore, and 2) promoting those deserving bands that fall somewhat outside MRR's purview in his own column. Instead of doing that, however, he's chosen to use that space to criticize aspects of the current scene, which is his prerogative (not to say something that definitely needs to be done). But under these

circumstances, I feel that he's adopted a rather hypocritical stance here.

Finally, it seems to me that the underlying basis of our dispute is that people with fairly broad musical taste often perceive those with narrower tastes than themselves as being closed-minded, and those with more specialized tastes typically feel that those with more catholic taste lack sufficient discrimination. Such is the case here. Nevertheless, although (to borrow a phrase from Magazine, one of Jack's faves) "my mind's not so open that anything can fall right in," I'm perfectly willing to accept the fact that others may like things that I detest, and to admit that Jack discriminates within his chosen field of interest. However, we at MRR demand the same consideration. If Jack and others can't tell the difference between TERVEET KÄDET and MANIFEST DESTINY, that's not our problem. They're just not listening too closely.

STRANGE DAZE

C-O-U-N-T-D-O-W-N TO THE MILLENNIUM

John J. Kohut

In Tucson, Arizona, tattoo shop owner Earl Kenneth Kaufmann went to Superior court in February to petition for a name change to "The Scary Guy." Kaufmann, 85 percent of whose body is covered in tattoos, said that he does not like his current name.

Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin signed a government order in January to provide every judge in the country with a free handgun. Of the 127 judges on the Moscow City Court, thirty have already applied for their free weapon.

Convicted rapist Dante Dozier, 32, who has already pleaded guilty to collecting child pornography from his prison cell in Pennsylvania's Graterford Prison, has asked a judge to have his porn collection returned to him. Dozier wants back a bag of explicit letters and a photo album of nude photos sent to him by young girls from around the country.

In January a cigarette smoker who lit a cigarette in a small fireworks factory in Anhui, China, set off an explosion that killed 17 people.

A Maryland man who had been previously acquitted of murdering his grandmother by hitting her in the head with a hammer was charged in January with the murder of a woman who had been hit on the head with frying pans. Police found two cast-iron skillets next to her body. Both pans were cracked.

An Akron, Ohio, man, 23, choked to death in January after trying to swallow a fish on a dare. Three friends of his called 911 after he put the fish in his mouth and was unable to breathe. Paramedics reported seeing the tail still sticking out of his mouth when they arrived. They removed the live, 5-inch long fish but failed to revive the man. Police said that the friends would not be charged. "If I dare you to jump off a bridge and you do it, and you're 23 years of age, you're stupid," said a police investigator.

Recent Last Meals

Lloyd Wayne Hampton, 44, convicted murderer executed in Illinois in January: A cigarette and a soft drink.

Jose Jesus Ceja, 42, convicted murderer executed in Arizona in January: Two red chili beef burritos, two colas, cherry pie.

Robert Smith, 47, convicted murderer, executed in Indiana in January: Steak, lobster, shrimp cocktail, chicken livers, meatballs, fried eggplant, salad with blue cheese dressing, loaf of bread, a whole Boston cream pie, three cans of Dr. Pepper.

Elrod Hill, 47, of Detroit, committed suicide by putting the butt of an AK-47 against the arm of the sofa he was sitting on, leaning the muzzle against the right side of his head and pulling the trigger. The bullet killed him and Brian Olesky, who happened to be sitting next to him.

A rainy February morning on a busy Los Angeles street. A pedestrian is left in "extremely grave" condition after being stabbed in the eye with a furled umbrella which penetrated his brain. According to witnesses, the victim umbrella touched the other man's umbrella as they were crossing the street in the rain. Furious, the other man took his umbrella and thrust it into the victim's eye. He then fled. Police referred to the incident as "rain rage."

In Spain relatives of Juan Villasante Paz, who died of a heart attack in January at age 76, believe that he was buried with a winning lottery ticket in his pocket. He dropped dead two hours before the lottery drawing on January 26th. The family has asked police to guard the grave site lest grave robbers try to get to the ticket, worth about $32,500.

In January a group of wild monkeys attacked people in the Japanese seaside town of Ito, injuring 30. In most cases the monkeys bit people on their backs and legs. In some cases the monkeys entered homes to attack their victims. 26 of the 30 victims were women aged 40 to 80.

A commission is investigating a judge in Nebraska for among other things, making threatening and vulgar telephone calls to a fellow judge, touching the fellow judge's chest, signing court documents "Adolph Hitler," setting bail at "a zillion dollars" and tossing lighted firecrackers into another judge's office.

A couple in Utah were sentenced to probation for an incident in which they carved graffiti into a panel of prehistoric petroglyphs in Kanab Canyon. The man, 20 years old, used a rock to slice his nickname, "Beavis," into the panel. His wife was charged for requesting that he add her name and "96" to the rock face.

The "Dead Zone" in the Gulf of Mexico, an area off the Louisiana coast 7,000 miles square which is devoid of sea life, has now grown to the size of the state of New Jersey. The Clinton Administration has assigned six teams of scientists to study the problem.

According to a report in the New York Times Magazine in January, police investigating the Pearl High School shootings of last year in Pearl, Mississippi, who suggested that teens linked to the shooting were members of a devil worshipping cult called the Kroth might actually have misheard statements made by the teens. In reality, some of those under investigation were involved in a fantasy role-playing game based on "Star Wars" comic books which features characters called the "Krath."

Kohut's latest book, written with Roland Sweet, is Dumb, Dumber, Dumbest, published by Penguin USA and available in bookstores everywhere. Please send all corroborating evidence from your town's newspaper (with the paper's name and the date the article appeared please) to me at: Strange Daze, PO Box 25682, Washington, DC 20007.

Well, I had to do some job hunting recently, after losing my job running a temp agency. That was an excellent job, but it was only for ten days, until the regular manager returned from vacation. Going for job interviews is very intimidating, but I think I'm starting to get the hang of it. The first interview I went on, the interviewer asked me how I'd rate myself as an employee on a scale of 1 to 10. I said 10, thinking that a number lower than that would indicate some deficiency. As soon as I said it I began second guessing myself, "I should have said 9, I'll never get the job now, they'll think I'm a conceited asshole, I might as well just walk out now." The next question was, "What do you consider your biggest shortcoming as an employee?" Since I had just given myself a 10, I couldn't very well admit to any shortcomings, but after saying that I didn't think I had a shortcoming, the interviewer expressed skepticism, and suggested that surely I must have something that might be considered a shortcoming. By simply trying to show myself in a favorable light, I seem to have instead come across as a conceited liar. I was really freaked out by the situation. I felt like I was being interrogated by the police. Damn, these professional interviewers really know every trick in the book to squeeze information out of you. After some more prodding about my alleged shortcomings I panicked a bit under the pressure and maybe without putting enough thought into it, blurted out, "Well I don't know if I'd consider it a fault, but my heroin addiction sometimes causes me to steal things from work". I thought I'd get some honesty points for that, but apparently the only honesty they care about is not stealing from work. I didn't get the job.

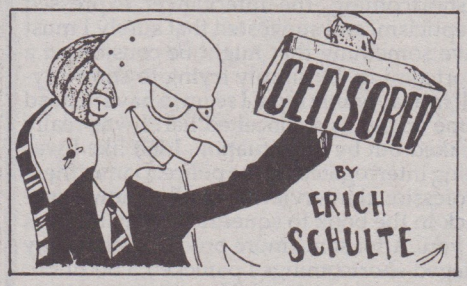
In the 60 days since I wrote my last column, I've noticed that on the daily news they seem to just be taking the same 3 stories and recycling them day after day. Apparently some kind of cost cutting measure. Every

once in a while another news story will surface, like the Texas execution by lethal injection of Karla Faye Tucker, but then it's back to the big three. By the way, I think executions should be televised. I'm interested in what's being said. Could be that when the executioner swabbed Karla's arm with alcohol her final words were, "What's that for? I'd like to know. Maybe the last words she heard before she went under were, "Well, I know this won't do you a fuck of a lot of good, but I don't want to lose my license". Until they put these events on TV, we can only guess.

One story that's part of Hype-a-thon '98 is El Niño. There are storms every Winter, but this year they've taken the always endless number of potential weather stories and tied them together under the El Niño banner. Some days they'll take 5 storms, none of which were big enough to be a major story, and they'll combine them all into one big "Look at all the damage that El Niño has caused today. Why are you doing this to us El Niño? Please, El Niño, leave us alone. We're begging you, El Niño, please just let us go on about our business, El Niño, we have important things to do" lead story.

Another daily story is the one about how the U.S. is preparing to bomb Iraq, because Saddam Hussein may be covertly making chemical weapons of "mass destruction" that he might use on neighboring countries. What a load of fucking horseshit!!! During the '80s, the U.S. helped Iraq to use chemical weapons on Iran, and that's a historical fucking fact!

Numero tres in the January/February pseudo-news power trio is the Bill Clinton sex scandal. Strangely, I seem to be in the majority on this one, like most people, I don't give a shit. I wouldn't care about Clinton's sex life if they found out he was fucking Al Gore up the ass on a daily basis. Shit, Clinton could sodomize Boy Scouts and it wouldn't lessen my respect for him any. Since the scandal began, Clinton's popularity has hit an all time high. If that's what it takes to renew people's confidence in government, then I hope Clinton fucks interns until his approval rating exceeds his body temperature.



You know that part in Braveheart where the Scots are just starting to kick some Limey ass, and then they call for their allies, who are mounted units. Instead of coming to their aid, the allies leave them to be slaughtered by the authoritarian King, hoping to gain from their treachery. That scene makes me feel the same way I do when I see calls for censorship from supposed leftists or progressives. Most of you have heard about the prohibitions of hate speech and "inappropriate laughter" on college campuses. Although such regulations are mostly gone as far as I know, I don't think that the sentiment behind them is. This column is about something similar, which is the call to ban pornography from the feminist movement. I choose this, because it is something that seems to be gaining momentum, and I hear about it from time to time in "the scene." Now, I want to make it clear that I am not claiming that all feminists support this movement, and that I am not trying to undermine women's rights by painting an extremist picture of all feminism. While the desire to ban porn may not be the majority view within American feminism, it is a legitimate force within it. In fact, the Canadian government has banned pornography on the basis of feminist, not religious or conservative arguments.

First I want to point out some very basic and confusing components of this movement, with out getting into the specifics (yet). These feminists, for various reasons, want to make it illegal for women to participate in making material that they object to. In other words they want to tell women what to do with their bodies. That just blows my mind. Think of the arguments for legalized abortion, most of them come down to the argument that women should have control of their own bodies. The basis of Roe v. Wade is the right to privacy, practically the same thing. Well this kind of argument sort of turns that on its ear. Now a faction of feminists have changed the issue from if anybody should have control over a woman's body other than herself, to, who should have that control. In other words, they no longer support the basis for abortion rights in this country.

Then of course, there are all the standard arguments against censorship. Who can decide what is obscene, if you start banning everything some people don't like, soon everything will be banned, it destroys the market place of ideas, it doesn't usually work, and then there's that pesky First Amendment.

Various pundits, as usual, have tried to shape the argument in such a way that makes it appear that this is an exceptional issue, and that all those arguments don't apply the same way as they would in other areas. One such argument is that pornography causes rape. Some proponents of a ban point to studies that show men who use porn are more likely to commit rape. Of course a moment's thought nullifies such data, because there is an obvious natural overlap. Those who are prone to use porn, and those who are prone to rape are often the same people to begin with; sexually frustrated men or at least men in need of a sexual release, who probably do not have access to consentual sex with a woman. Also, those who do partake of either porn or rape are often the same people. A man who has a very low sex drive is unlikely to use porn or commit rape. The same is true of those who disdain sexuality, like clergy, or the deeply religious. The existence of porn (or rape for that matter) is not what determines these factors. Let's apply the same logic to another situation. We want to find out if Shell gasoline causes people to do hit and runs. We would inevitably find that those people who use Shell are convicted of hit and runs more often than those who do not. But of course, Shell does not cause hit and runs, its just that those who do not drive in the first place are not in a position to use Shell, or do hit and runs, while those who do drive are.

To get back to the issue of rape, there are legitimate studies. The biggest study on the effects of pornography ever was conducted by the Nixon administration. Nixon was very much anti-porn, and was conducting the study in hopes of finding evidence to use in legislating against it. Unfortunately for him, the study concluded that porn did not increase instances of sexual assault. Additionally the report stated that it was possible that porn actually prevented some sexual assault by providing potential victimizers with a more benign form of release. Incidentally, Nixon tried to bury the study after he found out what its conclusions were. To me this is the best evidence about porn's relation to rape because of the size and scope of the study, as well as the fact that the study was clearly not biased (at least not in the direction of its results.)

Another issue brought up is women being forced into porn. For example Linda Lovelace, perhaps the most famous porn star of all time, now says she was forced to fuck a dog at gun point for one of her films. Naturally she can provide no evidence, and all circumstantial evidence indicates that she was more than willing, but that's beside the point. The fact is that forcing someone to engage in sexually activity already is illegal. It may happen very rarely that women are forced to film porn in similar ways, but it doesn't really make sense. There are thousands of women and men who are perfectly willing to do porn for a couple hundred dollars or less, so why would anybody risk doing twenty years in jail for kidnaping, rape, assault with a deadly weapon and so on? Furthermore, if someone, for some reason, was willing to commit all these crimes, how would they be deterred by an anti-porn law. So again, this part of the argument seems very trumped up, and anti-porn activists are probably very aware of that.

It is also said that women are forced into porn by society. It is argued hat some women can't make enough money, and in a society that objectifies women they have no choice but to go into porn. It may sometimes happen that, in order to make all the money she wants a woman may feel porn is the best route. I hate that our society forces people, men and women, into menial jobs where they can barely sustain themselves. I think that in a country with as much wealth as the U.S., poverty is inexcusable. If the issue is that our system is forcing people to choose between a life of menial labor at sustenance wages, or a fair amount of wealth in a career they don't want then the proper approach is to change the system, not take the choice away from people. In spite of both these arguments, most women and men in the porn industry want to be there. Many people in the industry are intelligent and well educated, and could certainly have careers in other fields. Many leave those careers in favor of the porn industry. When we look at the range of professions in this country, from field worker, to factory worker, to office worker, to executive to CEO or pro athlete, we find that female porn actresses are among the least financially exploited. While it's true that none of the actors

are paid much for their films, the women can use their name to make thousands, even tens of thousands of dollars a night on the dance circuit.

So it seems that the arguments to ban porn are all based on logical fallacy and misinformation. Big surprise. Whenever anyone tries to overtly censor or ban something, they'll always tell you its for your own good. They're just trying to protect society, whether its Gloria Stienem or Jerry Fallwell. The reality is that they want to impose their morals on society, and they're probably very aware of the flaws in their logic, but hope you aren't. We need to realize that we don't need protection against anything anybody might say, and we know the gov... oops, let's just say that that we can make up our own minds.

homerrmone@aol.com

I was quite surprised by some of the mail I've gotten recently concerning my last columns in Maximum, and I need to clarify a few things...

Issue #1, I am not in any way saying that non-profit is bad, stupid, idealistically naive or foolish. I am saying that non-profit *is not* the only way to be punk. You can run a business and be punk at the same time. All that is required is a solid sense of your goal and ideas about prices and honesty. Non-profit is awesome!!! Reconstruction, *MaximumRock'N'Roll*, Epicenter, The Gilman Street Project and other non-profit organizations are absolutely awesome and incredibly punk in both theory and actuality. But that doesn't mean that you can't open a record store, a printing shop, a book store, a clothing store or what have you and keep it punk. You can. That's my only point.

Issue #2; Punk is not some unexplored territory to open a business because you don't know what else to do with your life. Do not, I repeat, do not look to punk rock as revenue source. If that happens, fine, but if that is your goal then your business will end up being horribly commercial, too expensive, and definitely un-punk. I am not saying that bands should charge whatever they can so that they can live off of their music, or that you should sell your records for whatever prices you can get so you can pay the rent. Bullshit!!! Punk is not about greed. If you want to live off of punk rock then get the fuck out now! In my opinion punk businesses should be inexpensive, totally honest, independent, and fair. Do not start a mailorder because you want to quit your job. Start a mailorder because you feel that records aren't getting out to the people that want them at a fair price. If it turns out that two years down the road you are making enough money to pay the rent, then fine. But I hope that the original intention wasn't profit. Do things because you like them, not because you can make money at it. Issue #3; Opening a business, or running a record label or a distribution is a lot of work. This is not about a quick dollar and an light work week. I work anywhere between fifty and seventy hours a week. At the end of day sometimes my back hurts and I'm exhausted. The other night I spent a half an hour on the toilet at 4 AM dealing with stress induced indigestion and what will probably become an ulcer. If you open your own record store then you better plan on being in that store seven days a week, eight hours a day. And at the end of the month you may end up putting every dime you made that month right back into the store. That's how it works. Small businesses take commitment and a lot of dedication. You shouldn't even consider this sort of venture unless you can truly say that you love doing it. Am I getting through?

Issue #4; Basically, what I am advocating is a twisted combination of do-it-your self, protestant work-ethic, and punk ideology. Punk business is based on low profits, much work, a lot of love, and a huge amount of dedication. It is the anti business-as-usual business. This is my message, please do not turn my ideas into some sort of get-rich quick mentality.

Issue #5; I was not using Dischord as an example of a totally independent and ideologically perfect label. They use all of the most hideous and horrible distributors that there are, their records are way over priced in stores, they put UPC code stickers and shrink wrap on their CDs, and their records are sold primarily through record stores and hardly ever at shows by kids doing small distributions. I would never want to run a label along those lines. Unfortunately, Dischord has an almost mystical reputation and no one ever seems to criticize them. I do not wish to add to that myth, and conversely I'm not attempting to tarnish it.

Okay, with that out of the way I would like to move on with more interesting dribble.

Profane Existence has been grumbling about a column I ran a few months go in which I wrote, "*Profane Existence*, George Bush, and Vegan Reich are all proud members of the N.R.A." I didn't really intend to turn this into anything larger than it is, but a few comments are in order. First off, I was not saying that *Profane Existence* or anyone in *Profane Existence* belongs to the N.R.A., but what I was and still am saying is that *Profane Existence* (or at least Felix Von Havoc who wrote the original article in an older issue of PE, even though he's not in the collective any more) George Bush, and Vegan Reich all seem to share the N.R.A.'s belief that we have to protect ourselves with the use of violence. George Bush and the N.R.A. claim we need guns to protect ourselves from the Communists and murderers and thieves that are trying to tear this "great" country down, the Hard Line position is kill those that kill animals, and *Profane Existence's* position seems to be that we need guns to protect ourselves from the government's police forces. I find all three positions to be utterly inane and fantasy orientated. The N.R.A. and like can't seem to get out of their 1950s Cold War paranoia fantasy, the Hard Liners have this delusion that they are a revolutionary paramilitary force, and P.E. seems to believe that they can hold off the government bastards with a united front of armed punk forces—sounds like they've played Warhammer 2000 one too many times.

For the most part I think *Profane Existence* is a pretty cool organization, but on this subject I think they have just gotten way out of control. This country has a tremendous problem with murder, accidental shootings, and violence. Our mentality is to solve every problem with violence and force. What the N.R.A. really stands for is the right to use force and violence. By advocating the use and possession of fire arms *Profane Existence* is helping to build a more violent world. The last thing this country needs is more weapons. WE NEED GUN CONTROL, not information on the proper use, handling and buying of weapons.

I don't want to live in a world where the strong survive and the weak die. I don't want to live in a world where I have to own gun to get through my day. I hope that people can learn to get through life without resorting to violence and physical power. Buying a gun is not going to protect you from the police, from the communists, from the animal abusers, or from anyone else that wants to hurt you. A gun is not an instrument of protection but a device designed to kill other life forms. Violence is a game of power. Once the game begins the levels of power only rise and rise. It starts with a knife, which becomes a hand gun, which becomes a machine gun, which becomes a bomb, which becomes a nuclear weapon, which becomes total annihilation. If punks want to advocate playing this power game, then I can't help but compare them to Vegan Reich, the N.R.A. and George Bush. It is this circle of violence and power politics that has created our society. Call me a pacifist or a peace punk, but I certainly will not live my life according to the rules of violence and power.

Okay, that's it. *Maximum Rock'n'roll* permitting I plan on doing another column next month. If you disagree with anything I have to say please feel free to write me personally or through the pages of *Maximum Rock'n'roll*, but please refrain from shooting me. Thanks.

YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET IT

So "Record Collectors Are Pretentious Assholes"? Now, in addition to the regular reviews and early punk trivia, I have something of deep, instrospective VALUE to impart! If nothing else, I'll put you to sleep quicker than Sominex. Hell, I don't usually care to defend punk collectors (talk about a waste of time) but I figure's it's time to throw my hat in the ring! I'll skip over the psychological wisdom which opens the article. Why? Because it's all TRUE. If my dick WAS a bit larger and I had MORE friends, I could've

dispensed with punk records (and this damn column, for that matter) long, long ago. Having said that, if someone will send me a penis pump enlarger, I'll thin out some of my collection, and the sender gets first crack!!! The simple, true-to-life irony of the Poison Idea "Record Collectors Are Pretentious Assholes" LP jacket? Where do you think all the records on the jacket of "Record Collectors Are Pretentious Assholes" came from? Those P.I. fellers wallowed in the greatness of their punk collections as much as any collector dorks before or since. Moreover, one member did nothing short of re-tracing The Fix's first tour route in search of the "Vengeance" 7in. Collecting to impress or not, count me IMpressed, Pig Champion! It's undeniable that egos get caught up with record collections, but what else is new? Egos are tied up in everything, even shitty record labels.

Oh, but then there's the ugly underbelly of it all: $$$$$. If it's the money part of all this obscurity mongering that bugs you, I can offer no simple solutions. Money corrupts, it's true, but what else besides the feeling of a fat Michigan wad (that's a roll of $1 bills with a large bill on the outside wrap) is gonna convince someone to part with a cool punk record they just as soon keep. These days, lots of money gets blown by collectors looking for punk records (THAT'S UNPUNK, YOU CAPITALIST FUCK!!!) for everything from late 70s no-names to Screeching Weasel. Sure, those price tags put punk records (many which have musical or visual or historical value over above their dollar value) on the same commodity plane as Beanie Babies, but I STILL haven't found a dealer willing to make me purchase at gunpoint (interested parties, please inquire... I haven't bought much lately). Don't like it? Don't buy it. Write a column about it or something. While I have no cure-alls for materialism, I'm willing to do my part for those who choose not to partake of the death ideology. Go ahead and send me some of those pesky early punk records, and I'll tape the records for you (on found cassettes — not bought, of course!). Oh yeah, the citing of exorbitant prices ("some 7in. are going for $1600!") is totally misleading. We're talking one or two records bought by three or four people in THE ENTIRE WORLD. Get it?

Let's see what's next... the "several big collectors" going on buying sprees in Australia and New Zealand scenario where gullible Aussies are stripped of their early punk vinyl gems for use in a nefarious and "cheap commerical ploy to increase the value of their record holdings". Well, uh, let's see... I collect rare punk records, I went to Australia and New Zealand last year... I don't know anybody else fitting that description that's been down under recently... could this be me? Maybe I'm making too big an assumption. Ah well, for the sake of argument, I'll work with it anyway... I got 30 minutes before dinner's ready. Though there were a few punk singles I was dying to get from Australia, but I didn't fly there to find them. It's not a financially sound proposal. Check those round trip fares lately? A longtime hankering for early Aussie punk (ever since that Where Birdmen Flew comp... you guessed it, one of the dastardly bootlegs), definitely had me scouting through record stores as I do at home and on most vacations. I talked to band members. I contacted collectors. There were some titles I NEEDED (Victims, Young Identities, Leftovers, Chosen Few), and I got lucky on some of 'em. That's right, you jealous bastards with the shithouse record collection!! Oops, sorry, another slip into the "worship me for my record collection" and "my record collection is bigger than yours" and "people are jealous of my record collection" mantras that I live by. Sigh. Anyway, my searching paid off, but I was very lucky (some cheap, some not-so-cheap). Any collector worth his salt would tell you travelling any place these days looking for an obscure punk release is — for the most part — a waste of time. Come to Texas and look for the Vomit Pigs. Bring some rent money cuz you'll be here awhile. Head on down to Florida and snoop around for the first Eat single. Hope you like sleeping on beaches for a few years. Head on into the Big Apple and grab that Mad "Eyeball" single.... I mean that's where it's from, right? But don't forget your Visa because Ray's Rare Fuckin' Records has all the rare records you can shake a stick at, but Ray doesn't take American Express. Sorry, I started to sound like a commercial and had to follow through with it. My next site for pillaging? Japan, baby! A country known for bargains galore! Though I'm not much of a Japanese punk collector, I'm quite sure Stalin LPs will be available on every corner for peanuts, nay bean sprouts. Fat Man and Little Boy land in March.

What other straw men do I have to push around this evening? Oh, how about this one: sinister punk collectors hoarding stacks of different punk titles, comping them so they can sell said records (which are not, in actual fact, "rare") to the collector scum automatons who come marching with hundred dollar bills in their hands. Look, KBDs inevitably generate wider interest in the some of the titles... why wouldn't they? That's part of the point: spotlighting records that nobody knows about or can't find or can't afford. Inevitably, the more collectors that take a liking to a particular title, the more freaks will have to fight it out in the ugly stink pits of capitalism (though everyone I know would much rather a trade). You know the economic score... must I continue? The simple fact is that the detective types are usually out scrambling AFTER the compilation has been released because that's when interest in particular titles becomes apparent. There's not a Redrum label 800 number that collectors can call when they have a stack of some title ("I've got 400 Bitchy Bimbos singles I need to move. Get me on that next volume!!"), and there is no evil Zionist ring running the thing (in fact, punks have made the whole process very democratic), and one record does not a compilation make (in other words, if it's all about hoarding records to include on a compilation, someone would have to stash away nearly 20 different titles... not a real viable scenario, mate).

Now, about those ACTUAL pressing sizes. As you might expect, there's not always hard and fast proof of pressing quantities. Rarely is an official dated pressing receipt from twenty years ago available (though I do have one for the Cringe record), but if two or three band members say the same thing, most would consider that viable evidence (though, not airtight). There is (unfortunately for Mr. X's theory) not enough bonding among punk collectors for there to be a worldwide conspiracy where a pressing size of 200 when there's REALLY 1000. If anything, some early bands tend to overestimate their popularity... for example, the 10,000 quantity professed by a band member for a release on a label known to press 500 of each title. And, speaking of conspiracies, I'm sure some clever band out there has repressed their own 7in. and pawned it off as original, but I'm quite positive such scams are extremely, extremely infrequent and far from foolproof. The Child Molesters (as far as I'm concerned) are a good example of this. Time and again, the counterfeiters (band members or otherwise) have been busted wide open. After all, if these people were such inexacting business schlups twenty years ago, why would anyone believe they'd be competent enough to pull off an exact repro two decades later? Mr. X wrote: "Would most collectors know what the real copy looks like and which is a fake if they've never seen either before? Odds are that they would probably not." Fair enough... it happened with the Queers "Webelos" fake. However, the scheme didn't stay a secret too long since there are people who have originals and CAN sniff out bogus copies and — believe me — word travels around the globe in a matter of days (though, I'm sure many people still get burned). A true collector scum would not be satisfied unless he/she was convinced that he/she held a bona-fide original (the ego would not stand for it). Far from keeping the clothes on the vinyl emperor, most collectors I know are terribly skeptical and nitpicky when it comes to determining authenticity and true rarity. The word "rare" has to be amongst the world's most overused.

Lastly, let me say this: it's abundantly clear that Killed By Deaths are done first and foremost for MONEY (how else to pay for $1600 punk singles, right?). Even the mediocre anthologies and hack jobs make money. BUT, the only reason that the lame volumes sell is because of the well-chosen, solid KBD volumes which came before. "Killed By Death" had come to mean something, namely amazing comps. of stuff most had never heard. Ebenezer & The Bludgeons... c'mon!! I remember gobbling up volumes and wanting more. Those comps. shaped what I listened to. Of course, compilations from the past year or two are much more suspect that earlier ones, partly because the pickins are gettin' slim and partly because a lot of folks (myself included) are getting pretty jaded. Which brings me to my second point (of this paragraph, mind you... I'm trying to wrap this up). The compilers of these records are not closet Manilow fans dipping their greedy hands into the blossoming punk reissue market. They're fans quite in spite of all "money grubbing" accusations by holier-than-thou punk rockers who really TAKE A STAND. It takes truly interested collectors (i.e. pathological fans) to find some of this stuff and a lot of it IS worth finding. How do I know? I've had my hands in the reissue cookie jar (legitimate and not-so-legitimate) and know lots of people who put such records together. I've never released a record that I didn't think was great (and thankfully a few hundred people

around the world agreed... cheers to the monstrous EV fan base). Anyway, any well-versed buyer of early punk compilations can tell the difference between a well-thought-out (albeit crummy looking) collection and a clueless, thrown-together selection of mediocre records. As for why more compilations aren't made from cassettes, I offer this simple explanation: virtually nobody other than the compiler of Killed By Death #13 would have access to such a monstrous archive of punk demos. Are you saying a compilation of great, raw punk made from cassettes would be of no interest to punk collectors? Wrong. Give me a studio cassette of great unreleased early punk, I would release it in a heartbeat.

And I thought I was desperate for column material... let's get back on track. This will have to be a double column of sorts since I may not be able to write one next month. The Thermionic label has reissued the CLEVELAND CONFIDENTIAL LP which features some great tunes by Pagans, Severe, Womanhaters, aand Defnics. As with most early punk comps, there's a fair share of bad and worse new wave, but the good tracks make it worthwhile. The original pressing on Terminal is tough one to find, though the Cleveland Confidential 7in. is a bit more common.

Some new things have passed under my nose which deserve some mention. First, the YOUNG LOSERS "All Gone" 7in. is the best thing to come out of Austin in awhile. Fast and punchy... just the way I like it, baby. They're slated for fame and fortune with their upcoming release on Rip Off Records, but I guess they can be forgiven. You'll wanna jump fast on the "All Gone" 7in. as there are only 325 copies, all on tasty blue vinyl with a shithouse packaging job. Singer/guitarist Trey Vegetarian used to play in the great two-piece DISTRACTORS from Victoria, Texas. The first DISTRACTORS EP (Dimebox) is a study in DIY punk rock beauty, and — luckily for you — has been kindly reissued by the Cheap Date label. The original pressing on Dimebox was 200 copies and is long gone. Actually, only 175 were available since Trey left 25 on top of a pay phone on 6th Street, never to see them again. Cheap Date has also released a second Distractors EP called "Shithouse Crazy". The sleeve looks like a low-budget new wave sleeve crossed with low rider lettering. This second EP contains other cool songs from their one and only four-track recording session.

Despite a luke warm MRR review, DRUGGIES "I Hate Yer Fuckin' Guts" (Dog's Blood) is full of good hooks and inane themes of the variety that filled my teenage years. Everything about the record is well-worn, from the blood splattered picture sleeve idea to song themes, but it's still a worthwhile listen especially when writing MRR columns. One-upping the Druggies is the Detroit-based EPILEPTIX EP (GMM). These guys encapsulate the great amateur punk rock that makes life worth living. This is p-u-n-k... if you couldn't tell from the music, have a look at the "I'm so drunk" chaps with Aggression t-shirts, leather jackets, and Fear patches on the cover. Jesus, Ryan, everything has to be JUST SO, doesn't it? Maybe I'm just like his mother, she's never satisfied. Why do we scream at each other? This is what it sounds like when doves cry.

Lastly, I neglected to mention one of other fine aspects of the Motards' last show. The LOUDMOUTHS really got the ball rolling on that evening. Having just listened to their "Gotta Live Fast" 7in. (Woundup) and "Gone Drinkin'" (New Red Archives), I'd say their singles are worth grabbing, though I can never forgive the latter label for soiling my beloved Reagan Youth "Youth Anthems For The New Order" with a weak remix and then — adding insult to injury — releasing that blowhard second LP.

You can thank your lucky stars and Incognito Records (Germany) for a couple of 7in. gems this month. The first essential slab is by LLYGOD FFYRNIG. No, that's not a typo. Emerging from the land where the leek is king (that's Wales), these punk rockers cranked it up way back in '78. Their original "NCB" 7in. is a motherfucker to find even in England. I got a lot of "wot?" stares when I spent a year in England and looked for the damn thing. The Incognito release has all the songs from that EP plus one previously unreleased (though, this a radio show so all the versions differ from the original EP). The second re-issue is the TURBONEGRO/ ANAL BABES split. Originally pressed a few years ago in an edition of 200 copies, this one was near impossible to find. The bands cover each other, and let me tell you: this mofo is loud. No need to turn it up. Your money is well-spent on both of these.

CARBON 14 magazine has just released issue #12 with a bonus EP that is the stuff of wet dreams. Four bands: TURBONEGRO (Norway), SPLASH 4 (France), PLEASURE FUCKERS (Spain), and CRUSADERS (Australia). They even make a sleeve for the 7in, so the $5 cover price on the mag is worth every penny.

NASHVILLE PUSSY played Austin recently, but I haven't found a single person who went. Most (including me) figured not TOO much was missed since the first four shows were, uh, kinda deja vu (good deja vu, but still pretty repetitive). In the "I saw it coming a mile away" department, AmRep is repressing NP's "Let Them Eat Pussy" LP because of "overwhelming demand" and despite the oft-heard "1000 vinyl copies only" tag on all release information. Hard to stop a gravy train. The NP 7in. on Reservation ("First I Look At The Purse" b/w "Eat My Dust") is being repressed on a 10in. picture disc. Strange, but true.

Lastly, a fan of all fans has released the AVENGERS "Two Black Eyes" bootleg LP. It's got a live set from Whisky that's been chopped up on other 7in. bootlegs along with some demos with abysmal sound quality. If you have to have everything by the Avengers, then so be it. It's got a cool cover, too.

And so the countdown to Tokyo begins. How's this for a good departure gift: Turbonegro and the Urinals (that's right, THE Urinals) both playing the same week, just days before I head across the Pacific. A divine wind is indeed blowing.

Peer Pressure, P.O. Box 49984, Austin, TX 78765

There were about eight of them and one of me. They were big dudes and I was a fifteen year old one hundred thirty five pound vegetarian. Still I wasn't gonna be a sucker so I managed to say "Fuck You" and try to swing before I was knocked out. When I regained consciousness in the hospital, blood from a gash in my head obscured my vision. My jaw was broken and a tooth was hanging out of my mouth by a thread. Damage to my eardrums was causing me to puke uncontrollably. The cops came and stared down at me. The big one pointed his porky finger at my chest and squealed "what the fuck is this all about." Silly me, the night I get robbed and beaten to within in an inch of my life I was wearing my home made Millions of Dead Cops t-shirt. But this is a story for another time.

Most of you may know by now I hate the cops. In fact, judging from the number of anti-cop songs by punk and hardcore bands, this is a pretty universally held opinion in the punk scene. I could talk at length about the role of the police in society, but this has all been said before. Most of us hate being told what to do. We hate it when the cops fuck with us because we don't fit into their bullshit society and obey their stupid rules. Judging from the number of letters in MRR and Profane Existence from inmates, there are a large number of punks on the inside who stepped a little too far outside the narrowly drawn constraints of conformist social behavior and were punished. So why would we tolerate cops in hardcore? It's bad enough that there are law students and such in hardcore but full-fledged cops seems to me anathema. When Code-13 was in California we had the misfortune to play with the band Ringwurm whose guitar player is, I am told by reliable sources, a cop. Why anyone would want to be in a band with a cop? Why would anyone book a show for a cop? Why would an otherwise righteous label release a record by a cop? MRR does not print ads for racist or fascist groups, now why cops? I haven't seen Nazi's bust up a show or hospitalize one of my friends in a long time, but I sure have seen the cops do it. Which in the long run is a bigger threat to hardcore?

Last month we talked about the serves to subvert or at least bypass the traditional mechanics of distribution is trading. Most bands and economic of record distribution, and two months previous the cat from Mutant Pop/ Thousand Flowers wrote a very good letter about record distribution. One area of punk economic activity which small labels trade some of their own releases for those of other bands or labels to sell in their own area. This is especially cool when the two parties involved are from different countries,

as it allows what would otherwise be expensive import records to be sold much closer to the price of a domestic release. If you are in the record business you will very quickly get to know all the cats who are putting out records in your genre. One of the most enjoyable parts of running a label is writing to all the crazy hepcats like you who run labels and exchanging ten of these for ten of those. To my mind, this is the best way to get your records overseas and across town without having a bunch of people owing you money. The trick of course is turning around the records you've traded for. Be realistic in your exchanges and try to stick to things you know you can sell. Otherwise you will quickly learn that a lot of the people who write to you looking to trade are doing so because nobody bought their record in the first place. I travel across the USA and I'm always struck by the striking similarity of used record bins in stores from coast to coast. That is to say that some records will sell quickly and others will languish in your box for eons because nobody wanted it to begin with. Also, keep good records of what you sent to whom. The punk world is rife with Chaos and Disorder. I know I sometimes loose track of my trades and this can lead to a lot of misunderstanding between trade partners, remember when in doubt write to see if you can clear things up before you run into the streets yelling "this guy ripped me off, he owes me 20 7"s" That is not to say you shouldn't do that when traditional lines of communication fail. (Oliver, Sludge Records, France-You owe me 50 7"s get in touch)

I'd like to talk a little bit about plastic sleeves. You know the clear plastic bags that you put on your records to protect them from being scuffed up. These days most DIY bands don't put out records with folded and glued covers. In order to keep costs down they usually a piece of heavy paper about 7x14 inches printed and folded in half. This means that to keep the record in one piece, especially if there is an insert, you will need a plastic sleeve. When I see a record from a reputable label without a plastic sleeve I usually sneer at their lack of concern for the fans. Plastic sleeves vary in thickness from paper thin 2 mil to super stiff 6 mil and are made of polyvinyl something which I'm sure Rick Spencer will write in to point out is super toxic and killing millions of animals and plants. I'm not sure what to do about that aspect, until someone proposes an environmentally sound alternative I'm putting all my records and comic books in plastic sleeves. Most labels and collectors order their sleeves from places like Bags Unlimited in Rochester NY, I did this too for several years. However, if your scene is big enough to support such an endeavor you can have sleeves custom made for you at most polybag plants. Look in your local phone book. If you get enough people (bands, labels, stores, collectors) to go in on them together you can seriously cut costs down to fractions of a cent per bag. Or you can have several thousand made up and assume the glamorous position of plastic sleeve person, reselling them to stores, bands, labels and collectors in your scene. I have a friend who sold plastic sleeves by mail for several years, at very good prices, he was a popular guy. The point I'm trying to make here is that with a little bit of calling around and putting together a little cash you can help cut down the costs of releasing a record. These days the Do It Yourself ethic is often transformed into the "you do it for me so I don't have to" lack of an ethic.

Which brings me to this. Ever notice how most metal bands, no matter how talented have almost none of the get up and go that even the most amateur punk bands do. Metal cats usually think of themselves as "musicians" and concentrate on playing and performing waiting for someone to discover them. Most punk bands can't wait around to be discovered and call each other musicians only as a term of derision. Every time a metal band plays on a punk gig they are always asking "hey can you book us a show" as if booking a show was an arcane science beyond their ability. Further, you don't see very many self released metal albums, as metalheads usually wait around to get signed to a big label. What is going on here?

Lack of a DIY ethic. The punk scene is rarely given a choice of whether or not something will be done by you or done for you. Necessity demands that most punk bands produce and release their own material and book their own tours etc. Now I've heard a lot of people complain that no-one will book their band. Listen, nobody OWES your band a show, if you want to play out quit complaining and set up a show yourself. If noone shows up, then maybe it's not the scene that's the problem, your band just sucks. This goes double for all the shitty bands who go on tour with no releases, no fan base and no skills. It's wonderful that an independent touring network exists, but it sucks that crappy bands abuse it and thereby hurt the bands that are really trying. So all you ankle biters quit complaining about how the elitist scene won't give you a break. Don't wait for someone to do everything for you, do it yourself. I applaud MRR's decision to drop "get a fucking life" the so-called resource guide. A great idea which outlived its usefullness. After the first few years, everybody I know who knew what time it was quit sending in listings because all it led to was countless annoying phone calls from lame bands. Looking at the Minnesota listings for last year is illustrative. In a major metropolitan area with a large and established punk and hardcore scene there are pretty much no listings for any punk bands, labels etc. Those that are listed are mostly Ska, Grunge and Alternative bands on the very fringes of the punk scene with little or know business getting mixed up with hardcore. Here is the real deal, if your band is good and you know what time it is it shouldn't be very hard to set up a tour, in fact people will be GLAD to help you because your band is so good and they've heard your records. What? Your band is no good and you have no record? Then STAY HOME! The notable exception is of course the punks struggling to build scenes in places like Malaysia, the Philippines and Siberia who desperately need contacts around the world. So all you rich kids whose two year "punk phase" included going on tour with your crappy emo band to get college credits or put out a fanzine to get free CDs YOU FUCKING RUINED IT FOR THE REAL PUNKS IN INDONESIA AND BULGARIA!

While I'm on a roll I'd like to address something which has been at the back of mind, irking me, for many years. No it's not nuclear war, cruelty to animals or the draft, it's FAKE ENGLISH ACCENTS! How is it that bands from California and New Jersey wind up walking the Cockney walk and talking the Cockney talk. I've got no problem with healthy anglophilism, such as wearing Andy Capp hats, drinking warm Guiness and watching soccer on cable TV at four in the morning. Silly yes, but hardly plumbing the depths of poseurism like adopting a phony British accent. Granted many of the greatest punk bands of all time were from England, this I will not dispute, but adopting a phony English accent does not somehow make you MORE PUNK than the rest of us. Indeed, have you ever considered how stupid you sound to someone actually from the UK?

In the current flood of records that are released every month I've noticed that the lack of originality in today's punk scene has been manifesting itself in recycled band names and record covers. I'm all for recycling in a general sense, but it gets tiring looking a 7" which uses the same photo of a war victim that was already used once in '91 once in '84 and once in '78. Furthermore, it doesn't take much to come up with an original band name (hint: every variation of Chaos, Reject, and Riot have already been used). I know I sent away recently for a live 7" by the Lewd, which turned out to not be the Lewd I was expecting. There is still a lot of original talent and creative impulse in the punk scene, so why be satisfied with stale imitation and plagiarism? The last decade has seen amazing advances in desktop publishing, photo editing and computer graphics. These tools can definitely be utilized to create original and visually stimulating record covers. However, if you look around it seems that rather than enhance originality these tools seem to enforce stylistic conformity. With all these advanced tools at our disposal most straight edge records still look the same.

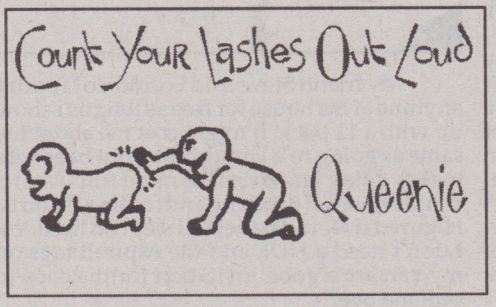
Living in the past: More forgotten punk and hardcore.

Speaking of the original Lewd, I'd like to talk about music for a bit. One of my favorite long lost punk bands is the Lewd from San Francisco (nee Seattle). The Lewd were in my opinion one of the very best punk bands from the Bay Area ever, if not the best. They were around from 1978 to 1982, the so-called Heroic Period of Bay Area Punk. They released the "Kill Yourself" 7" in 1978. They were at least as good as the Dead Kennedys or the Avengers but got none of the recognition, probably because their records have remained rare collectors items. The quintessential Lewd record is their sole LP American Wino from 1982. The Lewd also appeared on SF Underground vol. 2, and Eastern Front LPs vol. I and II. All are pretty rare, and even I still don't have the Kill Yourself 7' (anyone with a reasonably priced copy should write me at Havoc Records) Fear not, just recently a Lewd "Complete Discography" LP was released. A bootleg of course, it sounds great and shouldn't be too hard to find. Every song on American Wino is powerful catchy and makes you want to sing along and pogo just like it

was 1978. In the pre-hardcore era when a lot of bands lyrics were demented at best the Lewd offered biting and sarcastic commentary on contemporary society. It is worth noting that twenty years later the music is still catchy as hell and the lyrics incredibly valid. Which reminds me, just about everything the Avengers and the Dead Kennedys sang about is still valid, demonstrating that twenty years of punk rock has changed nothing. For the last fifteen years I've been living in a delusional fantasy. I'm going to cut my hair, put on a suit and go to work for THE MAN right away. HA! Just kidding! I'm actually going to talk about some great old punk rock I know even less about.

Holland in the late 70's and early 80's consistently put forth great punk bands. Bands like BGK were lucky enough to get their records distributed in the USA and tour over here. Some other bands continue to remain in the shadows known only to the Dutch and crazy record collectors. Now the truth can be told about some totally overlooked but great Dutch punk bands Jesus and Gospelfuckers and Disgust. Jesus and the Gospelfuckers of course have one of the best punk band names on record. For some insane reason between their demo tape and their first 7" they changed the name to Agent Orange, I'm sure this has caused confusion over the ages, but now I'm here to set the record straight. The Dutch Agent Orange had two 7"s "Your Mother Sucks Cocks in Hell" on Graaf Hendrick Records and the "VD EP" on New Wave Records (the crazy French label). Both from 1982-83. Jesus and the Gospelfuckers also had at least one demo tape, which is still actively traded, and the copy I got has some live stuff as well. Jesus and the Gospelfuckers lyrics are mostly sarcastic and retarded but still catchy as hell. Their music is sloppy obnoxious punk/hardcore which makes you think of a sweaty basement full of drunk mohicans. Their anthem "Kill the Police" is without a doubt one of the best anti-cop punk songs ever. I'm sure when they played this one live all hell broke loose. If any of the members of this band are still alive I'd love to re-release this stuff, just drop a line to Havoc Records.

Disgust was a great political punk/hardcore band from around 1984-85. Disgust put out a great 7" called Last Blast at least two demo tapes and were on some comps. Keep in mind there are probably ten more bands by now called Disgust, so Caveat Emptor. Ironically Disgust called their EP the Last Blast because "Punk is almost dead, the flame is just a flicker" well my flame continues to flicker, does that which burn brightest always burn fastest? Enough of that, Disgust played blazing red hot punk, hardcore, but not quite thrash. Their political lyrics spoke out against the injustices of the day and the apathy of their fellow punks. Recurring themes as I have noticed. Their guitar player did some crazy shit without delving into metal territory. This record is not that rare and totally worth picking up. Everybody remembers Lärm and BGK but when was the last time you heard about No Pigs or Neuroot? Two more excellent Dutch hardcore punk bands. No Pigs played totally raw yet catchy hardcore with great lyrics against police, authority and corruption and for shoplifting and anarchy. They put out a 7" about 1984 on Nozem records, plus some comp tracks. Once again, great overlooked punk, so not that rare or expensive. Neuroot was much faster and more thrashy than Disgust, No Pigs, or Jesus and the Gospelfuckers. You might remember Neuroot from the PEACE comp. They were around in 1984-85 and did a killer 7" called Right is Might. Crucial political thrash-core, totally pissed off and raging. The 7" came with a poster explaining all the lyrics. Neuroot have the (mis)fortune to be on one of the crazy rarest records in the world of hardcore. Pushead was going to do a Neuroot/Fratricide split LP but it only got as far as test pressings. There can only be a handful of these on earth but I've seen three and own one, which just goes to show you that if you look long enough you will eventually find even the most crazy rare record. I have just scratched the surface here, but BGK, Lärm and Pandemonium will have to wait, because this ain't a scumpit article, its my column. I had better sign off now and give the MRR shitworkers time to open the torrent of angry mail from everybody I've pissed off this month.



Ahh, spring is in the air and mating season has begun. Starting in early February as the days get longer, the increase in sunlight is causing even the most reserved of our animal friends to go into estrus. For the simple folk, I mean go into heat. Estrus (by the way, only occurs in the females of a species) is immediately followed by ovulation and the production of pheromones that attract the opposite sex. But unlike Old Spice, these pheromones really work. One whiff and the heat is on. I can't imagine being controlled by my fertility in this way, but I do adore an old fashioned courtship... On one side, we have a gaggle of the biggest and the brightest males the land has to offer, showered, shaved, and shined, each bearing gifts of nutritious goodies and promises of warm, dry homesteads, trying to out-flex and out-preen all the other suitors. And on the other side, we have all them ripe and horny females, waving their asses in the air, ready to burst with fruit flavor, with the difficult task of selecting which lucky sperm donors get to participate in an all day/all night fucking marathon. Or shall I say, marathon of fucking. The males come in droves with hopes of being one of the chosen few. Puffing up, croaking low, butting horns and swinging bugs, in what basically looks like a cross between The Dating Game and a wet T-shirt contest. *Um, contestant #2, turn around again and show me that nice long tail feather. Honey, with those flanks, you better have brought me something amazingly fresh to eat. Hey, you there, with the rack! Now your horns were made for blowing. Come closer and let mama get a better look at your genes...* Remember, this is the survival of the fittest and the competition is fierce. Many of these females will only be fertile, meaning sexually receptive, once a year; so this may be the one and only chance to fuck until after the next winter thaw.

And aren't you getting caught up in all their passion? Can't you just feel the heat? Doesn't someone want to go out there and put that cat out of my misery? Isn't everyone a tad friendlier at your local "grog and groc" these days? And are you getting the feeling that everyone is beckoning you, desiring you, suddenly affected by your tremendous sexual energy? Haven't you noticed them all checking you out, gazing back appreciatively at you stare, contemplating whether or not your natural beauty signifies good genes or a good doctor? That cat, stop that cat from moaning... And as you walk down the street, has the sexual tension between you and everyone that passes gotten so powerful, it forces them to either look away or look down? *You know what they say, big shoes... big feet.* Whoa, little buckaroo: Slow down and close the barn door before the donkey gets out. Sorry to be the one to have to break it to ya, but although you may think they're smiling at you, really, it's just gas.

Nope, spring has no effect on humans because unlike every other animal in the world, we do not go into estrus. The one and only trait that truly differentiates us from the rest of the animal kingdom is our separation of menstruation from sexual receptivity. Even our kissing-cousins, the Bonobos, follow a seasonal estrus cycle. Having monthly, instead of annual cycles of menstruation and ovulation (again, only occurring in the female of the species) means shorter, more frequent periods of infertility and fertility making females, on the whole, more sexually accessible. That urgency present in all other animals have to copulate and reproduce every time a female ovulates within 100 yds of them is abated in humans by the frequent cycles of ovulation that allow for increased opportunities for reproduction. Of course, there are negative repercussions, mainly the unbelievable disregard and depreciation of the value of childbearing. But separating sex from reproduction affords women tremendous sexual freedom. Menstruation emancipated women from the burden of incessant breeding and hormonally mandated intercourse. Women can now choose to have, or not to have, sex for the sole purpose of recreation. So unlike reproductive sex, where the main focus is copulation-the act of depositing sperm, recreational sex can and should be focused on obtaining sexual pleasure. For all parties involved! Best of all, once a month, every single ovulation reinforces the obvious but still contested fact, that women were given the freedom to determine the reproductive status of their own bodies. **Amazing!!** Even biology confirms that we should have the right to choose. If women weren't supposed to have reproductive freedom, as believed and touted by the religious right, we would be on all fours right now, unconsciously partaking in the frenzy of mating season.

All this talk about procreating is making me a little misty-eyed. I should take the

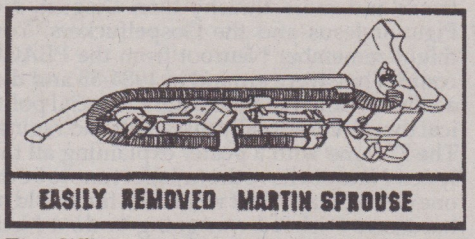
time to reassess my life. Where I've been, where I want to go. I find myself constantly trying to complete everything I've set out to do only to forget why I wanted to do it in the first place. So, let me stop for a second and really think. Looking back at all my past accomplishments, I think it's safe to say that I've done quite enough for myself. So now, I think it's high time I start thinking about the future. Thoughts of settling down and finally tying the knot. Finding the partner of my dreams and getting married in a nice quiet ceremony at the Legion of Honor or somewhere equally patriotic... Buying a fixer-upper in Noe Valley with a two car garage that will allow me to buy that Volvo station wagon I took out for a test drive with Cal Worthington and his dog Spot. And then maybe, I'll have me some of them kids.

Where the fuck did that come from?! I said I wanted to reassess my life, not throw it in the shitter! I want to **have** a future so fuck all that patriarchal, contrived bullshit. I have my degree, actually I have 3 of them, and I have a lease for my flat which is plenty commitment for me. *Marriage?!* I don't need a green card and I don't make enough money to have to worry about taxes, so why the fuck get married? And just for your information, I have met the partner of my dreams; actually I've met hundreds of them. And every now and then, I'll set one of them down and tie a whole bunch of knots. Sure it's great fun for me, but I really don't think that's any reason to throw a hootenanny. Pre-nuptial agreements, vows of "for richer and for poorer" joint checking accounts, divorce settlements, alimony payments, child support, proof of service... Fuck all that! Not my type of negotiations.

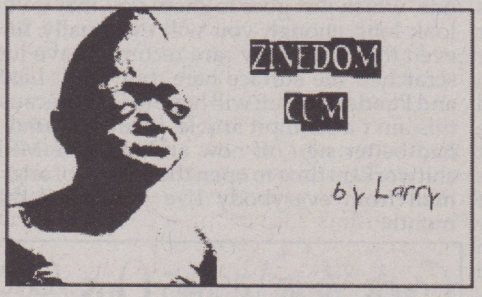
Which brings us to the topic of kids. Want to have kids? Well, that's just lovely... Anyway, there are many methods of birth control readily available to help you keep your boys in your yard. The simplest one? I've got two words for ya: *sock sock*. Hey, I'm just here to make sure that what happens between two or three or however many consenting adults, is 100% pure unadulterated, kinky twisted fucking, without any of that sick, depraved procreating stuff going on. Information on safe sex services and resources can be found everywhere, please look one up.

Before I go, here's something every pervert should know. Kink Aware Professionals (*http://www.bannon.com/kap*) is a privately funded, non-profit service dedicated to providing the community with referrals to psychotherapeutic (psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker), spiritually-based counseling, medical, dental, alternative/complementary healing (chiropractors, acupuncturists, massage therapists, etc.), and legal professionals who are knowledgeable and sensitive to diverse expressions of consensual, adult sexuality. Not all are perverts themselves, but they are all definitely pervert-friendly. Let them know that you heard about them through the Kink Awareness website.

Til next time, kneel down and worship at the altar of a menstruating woman. Transformative evolutionary developments are occurring between her legs, so partake of her ability to give life. But first make sure there aren't any unseen organisms at play. Evolution may be amazing but primordial soup is not my cup of tea. And don't forget to play hard for mama...



Tim: When are you going to write your column for the sexuality issue, Martin?
Martin: Not now Tim, I have a headache.



My friend Steve said I could do laundry anytime at his house for free as long as I show up with a 12 pack. It might cost me about the same as going to a laundromat, but beer sure makes doing laundry a lot more fun. After a couple hours of drinking and folding T-shirts, I figured it would be best if I slept on his floor. I don't need a DUI, and the expired tags on my van are a good invitation for the cops to pull me over.

When I came up the steps to my house the next morning, the first thing I notice was my window was laying on the ground and my screen and blinds were completely destroyed. Fuck! Someone broke into my room last night! I stick my head through the window and everything seems to be there, but I can't see my computer. As I raced up the stairs, I had the feeling an entire issue of my zine was just yanked out of my window. I quickly surveyed everything in my room, and not a single thing was stolen. I couldn't believe it. I asked my roommate if he scared off a burglar last night.

"What? Someone broke into your room? I was too stoned so I just passed out and didn't hear a thing."

Needless to say, I installed backup software on my computer that night.

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Tail Spins fanzine recently released the first issue of their *Zine Guide*. The content is just as the name implies. The zine reviews are brief, mostly just a listing of content, along with price and contact info, but they also add descriptive quotes from other zine editors. For example, the comment for *Monozine* (one of my favorite new zines - send $2 to PO Box 589, Reisterstown, MD 21136) is from Jodi, from *At a Crawl* zine: "Lots of puking stories and other bodily ailments. So funny I cracked up more than once." They pulled the quotes from the surveys they sent out to tons of zine publishers and labels asking them for descriptions of their top five favorites zines. They also compiled the results into top 150 survey results, with different divisions for favorite zines among record labels, other zine publishers, male and female readers. The top 10 overall results are *Cometbus, MRR, Ugly Things, Punk Planet, Giant Robot, Tail Spins, Beerframe, Bust, Dishwasher*, and *Popsmear*.

They're accepting surveys for issue #2 right now. For a copy, send $4 to Zine Guide, PO Box 5467, Evanston, IL 60204. Send a SASE to participate in the survey.

***

I was recently told about a new Kinkos scam. Since I don't go to Kinkos, you might have to experiment with this one, but I was told there's a way to recharge those Kinkos copier cards. I was told they come in increments of $20, $50 and $100. Keep in mind this is all secondhand information. When you use the card to credit the machine, you slide the card in, the machine reads it and slides it back out. If you slide a blank card in the machine immediately, it supposedly recharges the blank card with the amount on the original card. If you have a $20 card and slide in a blank card, you now have two $20 cards. Most customers throw away their cards as soon as they've used them up, so it shouldn't be too hard to find blank cards in the trash or laying around on the copiers.

If anyone tries this or has other tips for pulling this off, let me know.

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As usual, I'm looking for stories on Satanism, devil worship, occult, etc. in your local newspapers. Please send any clippings with the name of the paper and the day the story appeared.

Issue #15 of my zine, *Genetic Disorder* is finally out. It's completely different from any previous issues. There's only three ads, no record reviews and the content consists of my two months of traveling across the US. For a copy, send $1 plus four 32¢ stamps. I can be reached at <harmon1@mail.sdsu.edu> or PO Box 15237, San Diego, CA 92175.

Imagine this: you are confined to a theater, forced to endure the most banal of cinema—films about space aliens invading, volcanoes erupting, and planes being hijacked. Although the disasters seem to be different, the plot is always the same, as are the faces of the actors and actresses. There is nothing unique or exciting about the computer generated tragedies that keep recurring. Yet the audience seems stupefied, even somehow content. You reach over and touch the person next to you to make sure they're alive. Slowly their face turns to reveal empty eye sockets, sockets leading to an emptier brain. A trickle of drool emerges from the monster's mouth. You are horrified. The movies have turned

the audience into mindless zombies. You stand up to run, but where will you go? There are no exits here. Your horror turns to anger, but what do you attack? You want to tear your chair from the floor and throw it at the screen, but what will that solve? You are trapped in a nightmare.

To many of us, this nightmare is quite real. We see a world run by illusionists where the masses are brainwashed into ignorance by art that is advertised as being liberating. We see that film, music, and literature have all been converted into meaningless, non-challenging drivel; which at the very least conditions people not to think, and at the worst helps them to think according to the whims of others.

Many times when a person criticizes the nature of art in today's world they are met with rebuttals along the lines that nobody is forcing anyone to go see *Jurassic Park*, listen to a *No Doubt* record, or read a copy of *Rolling Stone*. In short, we supposedly live in a society of choice. We can always leave a theater when the film playing is brain damaging crap, right?

Well, not entirely. The art of society is helping to manufacture the sort of people you and I will be sharing the planet with. Although many of us may avoid the local UA cinema, or buying CDs through Columbia House, we inevitably will be surrounded by those who do. This means that unless you like living in a closet, the drooling half wit consumers of pop culture will be all around you.

Some time ago, Wes Craven came to my hometown, Santa Rosa, to film *Scream*. He wanted to use Santa Rosa High School, a vintage building which has been used in other movies such as *Peggy Sue Got Married*. Unfortunately for Wes Craven and his Hollywood brood, school officials refused to let the movie be filmed there. They objected to its violent nature. In turn Wes Craven cried "censorship" and sent some henchmen to argue the case in front of the local school board, even threatening legal action, but no dice:
the film would have to be shot elsewhere. In the end all Wes Craven could do would be to place an insulting disclaimer at the end of his movie's credits.

"Censorship" as a word has become as much of an oxymoron in this society as "democracy." Basically we live in a country where large economic powers like Viacom and TimeWarner are continuously deciding what people should be watching, reading, and listening to. These powers have decided that it's okay to show a person being brutally murdered on television, but somehow nudity and swearing are thought of as improper.

Unlike many people, I choose to see those with real power in this society as being neither left wing or right wing in their politics. They simply exist for the accumulation and safe guarding of power. They believe that the best world is one where less people actually critically think. In order to keep others from doing so they have devised a number of psychological pits and hurdles. As a result, the species we live amongst is severely unstable. Objectification of the body has lead to sexual neurosis; irrational flags have lead us to low self esteem; destruction of community has lead to the erosion of identity.

In such a context, the idea and effect of art takes on a different meaning. In short, most of the art which is a part of the so-called mainstream in this society is just advertising for a twisted cynical agenda. This might offend the sensibilities of those who believe that art is simply a form of self expression. Certainly in the confines of one's own room, art can be said to take on that role; but when it is being broadcast, portrayed, and published for the want of millions it takes on an entirely different role.

Leni Riefenstahl was a film maker in nazi Germany. Her propaganda piece the *Triumph of the Will* gained critical acclaim worldwide. This documentary highlights Hitler's ascension to power at a massive rally in Nuremburg. After the war Riefenstahl denied any allegiance to the nazi cause, denied any responsibility her films might have had in strengthening the Third Reich, calling herself an "artist."

For some reason, being an "artist" seems to work quite well in cutting off responsibility for one's creations. What is the difference, however, between somebody who designs films supporting a bad cause and one who designs weapons? Without effective propaganda to drive people to war, who would pick up weapons at all? The same sort of question can be asked in regards to our current society: without effective propaganda in the form of media and art who will continue to be good consumers?

In the last year some concerned students from Casa Grande High School in Petaluma (very close to Santa Rosa) wrote a letter to Winona Ryder about her habit of smoking on screen. They asked Winona (herself a Casa Grande graduate) how she felt about advertising tobacco to millions of young viewers worldwide. In return, the actress wrote a response which in affect told the students to butt out of her life, falling back once again on the good old standard of "artistic license." Like Riefenstahl before her, Winona chose to simply pass the buck on responsibility, ignoring the fact that the industry she works for is controlled by those who would laugh at her obsolescent argument: large advertising firms and multinational corporations who know all too well how beneficial cinema can be as a propaganda tool.

Currently films are being loaded with commercial advertisements. For example, MGM's new James Bond film, *Tomorrow Never Dies*, received paid endorsements for product placement from corporations such as Avis Rent A Car, BMW, Ericsson Corp., Smirnoff, Visa International, Heineken, and L'Oreal. The fact that Winona Ryder may have been paid nothing to smoke in a film is irrelevant. In the eyes of the tobacco corporations she is doing them a favor. Although probably only a handful of young people would light up as the direct result of seeing a single film where a young attractive actor/actress smokes, the equation becomes quite different when a relatively gullible population of young people is constantly assaulted with savvy media icons puffing away on cancer sticks.

Rather than trying to win their war against critical thinking with a swift blow, the big business forces controlling this society have concentrated on a more subtle approach: buying all aspects of media, and then building art and information around product endorsements. How effective has this technique proven? How many people would have seen a blatant piece of junk like *Independence day* if not for how much promotion it received in the media? How many people would buy the bogus CDs of new corporate "artists" if not for music video channels and constant airplay? How many people would have bought CD players if not for the fact that the music industry (most of it owned by electronics corporations) decided to make CDs the only medium people could listen to? Corporate art, no matter how subversive in appearance, is often tied so directly into marketing strategies that its relevance in any regards besides money flow is marginal.

Wes Craven might as well have wanted to build a bank on top of Santa Rosa High School. His film with it cast of known face celebrities was a sure fire money maker. Against him rose up a band of people that asserted their right to not have their work place turned into what they felt to be an offensive billboard. Unfortunately, in many cases where groups of people decide how to deal with what is considered offensive the results are not quite so black and white as this case of corporate film maker versus small school board.

Some people have been offended by racist dialogue in *Huckleberry Finn* and have tried to ban it from school libraries. Others tried to stop the sale of the *Satanic Versus*, a novel written by Salman Rushdie, because they felt it insulted Islam. As for myself I am offended by almost all corporate music and would have no problem if 90 percent of the CDs in a typical record store were taken out and stomped to bits. Obviously what offends some in this society does not offend others. So where does that leave those of us who feel that the media is connected to the quality of the world we live in, but who don't want to engage in acts which limit free expression?

Better than destroying or banning any media would be the enlightenment of a population so that they can censor themselves effectively. In short, we need to become a species with a heightened sense of awareness. From all indications, we are pretty far away from such a state. What can be done currently is to encourage the knowledge of how what we do as individuals affects the whole. How do we do this?

The best place of course to start is with the sharing involved in the ideal of community. Apart from this, individuals can easily help others to learn about themselves. Since we live in a society where the media is constantly bombarding us with images of who and what we are supposed to be, a nice place to start is to turn off that media and enjoy the resulting silence and self reflection.

Without actually walking into people's homes and smashing their televisions, we can simply inform others about the options available. Instead of buying some CD from some forgettable band, they could learn to play an instrument themselves; instead of

watching TV, they could put out their own book.

This theater of a society can't be dealt with in fits of irrational anger, or by trying to work with the projectionists. We must subvert it, but in an intelligent way. We have to help others around us realize that they are not zombies but part of something more: they are part of the solution to finding an exit, to getting out of this place.

Until next time, your happy pal, Brian Zero....

I am slowly catching up on all of the records that have been sent in for review but this column should take care of all of the records in the review pile. There are several records of note in that pile because they are bootlegs of emo records and live performances. It was only a matter of time before somebody started booting some of these bands and I welcome it. This music should be heard and not only by pimply record geeks who have the time to track down hard to get vinyl. So, here is what has come in so far and I hope many more will come in the future.

One of the most sought after emo records would have to be the MOSS ICON/SILVER BEARING split LP. The sound quality on this is great, and if you don't know the MOSS ICON stuff is among the best of their later stuff and SILVER BEARING is jazzy but fast paced quirky stuff. While the original has a totally homemade sleeve and is screen printed, this comes in a plain white sleeve with a small sticker on it that tells you what is to be found inside. Sort of a nice touch if you think about it.

Speaking of bands with Tonie Joy in them, UNIVERSAL ORDER OF ARMAGEDDON has also been booted. This boot is a 10" with a live show on one side (from Gilman) and their demo on the other. The demo side is cool because if you heard the original you might know they dubbed a bunch of them over old thrift store tapes. So after the music is over the rest of that side has what was on this person's copy, here a Redd Foxx comedy tape!!!! The live side is ok since it is off the board, but UOA always put their amps up way to loud so a lot of the songs just get lost in mud.

The INDIAN SUMMER "All That Was For Nothing, Is Here" LP is only technically a bootleg. This was to be on Sound Pollution but the guys in INDIAN SUMMER demanded their tapes back after the HELLNATION "At War With Emo" 5" came out. I'm not sure what is weirder, the INDIAN SUMMER boys taking things so seriously or Ken from HELLNATION/Sound Pollution liking INDIAN SUMMER. About 300 of these were shipped out by Mordam so you may be able to get a copy. The rest are supposed to be destroyed. This has just about all of their stuff on it with the exception of the split with ORDINATION OF AARON, why I don't know. I am a pretty big fan of this bands super emotional (at times over the top) hardcore.

The final boot is the "Killed By Emo" LP which does a great job of parodying the Killed By Death layout form and delivers a bunch of great emo songs. There are one or two songs from hard to get vinyl by a number of bands including: ADMIRAL, MOSS ICON, IGNITION (from the flexi), ONE LAST WISH, RAIN, GREYHOUSE, and LUNGFISH. This gets two big thumbs up, even if there is way too much DC stuff on it, and should go to the top of your want lists.

Since these are all relatively new they shouldn't be too hard to get. Just check the classifieds sections and write letters to some of the bigger distros out there and I'm sure you'll be able to find them for pretty cheap.

* * *

UNWOUND has a new album out, "Challenge For A Civilized Society", that probably has many of you running out to the store. I saw UNWOUND once while I was living in DC. As you can imagine the audience was standing completely still the whole time as the crowd in DC usually is. One chap, however was shaking his rump quite vigorously. He got pretty hacked that no one else was moving and began to chastise the crowd quite loudly. When no one responded he got on the stage so as to better yell at them and then while UNWOUND began to play their next song he stripped down and began to dance like a drunken sailor, rambling about giving the crowd something to stand around and stare at. And still, they did not dance. This merry maker, in case you are wondering, was Mr. Chris Bald of FAITH/EMBRACE/IGNITION and his actions proved that not all of the elder statesmen there had turned into wet blankets. (Kill Rock Stars)

Did you know that the 1st singer for CITIZENS ARREST sings for the undeniably happy sounding CHISEL? No ferocious blasts of hardcore on the "Set You Free" LP, most of the gritty CHISEL stuff is way in the past (seek out the "Swamp Fox" EP). Here, there is a pop sound much like SQUEEZE, meaning though it sounds upbeat, there's usually a lot more lyrically then bubble gum. Not unlike the last TRUSTY LP, but with less harmonizing.

I do not "get" THE WORLD/INFERNO FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY. Their latest outing is an LP which is a concept piece, a musical of sorts. I have trouble following the plot because of the moronically printed lyric sheet with teeny white script on a black background. At their best they sound like a demented swing band, at their worst—pure art.

RYE COALITION's LP "HEE SAW DHUH KAET" is a slab that been out for quite a while. I saw these boys on their last tour and left early cause everything was going way too slow. While I still think their split with KARP is their high water mark, this LP ain't a stinker at all. Very little of the slowness that chased me away live (maybe the tour had gotten to them, Frisco is quite far from the Garden State) is to be found here. This sound is kind of herky jerky, bass focused sound, a bit like what you'd expect from Chicago/Touch and Go before their bands became schlock and formulaic. This is a FUN record to listen to.

The past three LPs are all available from Gern Blandsten, PO Box 356, River Edge, NJ 07661.

I don't think that it is inaccurate to say that the first IVICH EP brought us the beginning of the current French emo-hardcore sound. IVICH was never quite as harsh as FINGERPRINT or as straight forward as UNDONE, always sounding a bit eclectic (not as much once the trumpet left) and very dark. The "La Vie Devant Soi" 10" is (I believe) the last stuff they recorded which keeps up with past efforts and develops a sound that marches mid paced with screaming, pained vocals in French. The coolest parts are when the guitar is building this big deliberate sound and the drums are going nuts, full speed forward. Be sure to dig up the first EP and their LP. (Ebullition, PO Box 680, Goleta CA 93116)

Ex-members of PORTRAITS OF PAST, where are they now? Some are in Oakland's strange rock group THE AUDIENCE (others are vandalizing London). Now it isn't quite art, because we all now that art fucking sucks, but stuff gets really weird here at times. While things do get laboriously slow at times on their newish 12", their peculiar sound, with myriad influences (the best being a lonely PAVEMENT) can get one to take notice. Lots of well used static, loops, and keyboard damage keep up a psycho feeling throughout. (Hymnal, 1892a, Market St., S.F., CA 94102)

I saw a couple of new Hydra Head Records releases at one of the Frisco record stores. I believe one was a HUGUENOTS record. As should be expected the records layout looked pretty fucking cool.

Quite a few PARTY OF HELICOPTERS releases have visited here, and now I have the best yet, their "Abracadaver" LP. Yes, I've commented before how much the vocals remind me of early SHUDDER TO THINK, and they continue to with their hypnotic sing song approach. The music is very raw and a notch below emo violence, with crazy rhythms and subdued mayhem and sorta drifting but tight melodies. Awesome sleeve design as you should expect from this label. (Donut Friends, 1030 Jessie Ave, Kent, OH 44240)

OK, SAINT JAMES INFIRMARY has gone through some line up changes, most notably a new vocalist. They also have a sound quite different from their EP. Their LP on Allied shows a shift from more SWIZ and SOUL SIDE influences to a more complex rock approach sorta like an under produced ROLLINS BAND. The vocals vary between being very fluid and quite spat out and often sounds rather funky. A more bass BLUETIP? (Allied, PO Box 460683, SF, CA 94146)

There is actually quite a bit of French vinyl in this month. ALCATRAZ's "La De-

struction" EP makes me quite happy due to it being quite political. The song "1917-1997" is a nice rambling, discordant song about communism. Throughout the EP there is a bunch of full out lung clearing screaming over slower moving, developing songs with jangly guitars that hit to distortion quick. (Opale Records, 45 Rue Cornet, Appt. 6, 86000 Poiters, FRANCE)

I thought ANANDA had long since come and gone with their 10" of a year or two back. Their LP "Habeas Corpus" is even more maniacal, distorted, and jumbled(in a good way) as the last outing. Really good spoken part breakdowns. The male and female vocalists really seem to genuinely be damaging their vocal cords with their shrieking. This is miles away from being generic screechy stuff. (Unfortunate, 24445 Lisa Kelton Pl., Newhall, CA 91321)

Both Ebullition and Unfortunate get high regards from me for being US labels putting out releases by French bands.

Both bands on the LEFT IN RUINS/ AMALGAMATION split LP play fairly predictable emotive hardcore. LEFT IN RUINS pulls off their sound quite well though. Pretty intense emo-violence, fast paced for much of the songs, a good amount of crunch, and damn good lyrics. AMALGAMATION doesn't deliver nearly as well, mainly cause both the recording and the style of the vocals are pretty awful. The hoarseness seems forced and unnatural and the high pitched aspects really bug me. The music shifts from kinda straight forward hardcore stuff to drawn out build ups and layered guitar. I'm looking forward to the upcoming LEFT IN RUINS EP. ($6, Rice Control, PO Box 3489, Silver Spring, MD 20918)

Biff, bam, boom, the singer from ROSWELL PROJECT has got a killer emo-violence voice along the lines of PALATKA and IN/HUMANITY. The music doesn't ever catch up with him but its slightly slower, sometimes (slightly) epic sometimes crunchy approach works well off his voice. Good things are sure to follow from this. (Nothing Left, PO Box 11315, Costa Mesa, CA 92627)

OK, here come the CD releases. I would like it to be known that I do not like the CD format and if you are sending stuff in for me to review I would VERY much prefer that it was on vinyl. Of course, I will review your release the same either way. If CD is what you send in, let me know if there is a vinyl version to tell others about. Enough of my pettiness. GRADE is definitely back from the grave to stay for a bit. Their new CD (also available on 10") is a sure keeper and the first song is amazing. The last EP had a lot of strange, high vocal stuff going on that was good but wasn't quite ready. Here, GRADE manages to get the emo-hardcore power of their LP to mesh really well with somewhat soft melodies and easier vocal parts. Nothing over 4 minutes and a production that isn't overly clean which keeps it from boring me. The downside is that the artwork here is a perfect example of all that is shit about computer layouts. (Second Nature, PO Box 11543, Kansas City, MO 64138)

SIDEKICK KATO get a lot of my love for mentioning my brew of choice (Budweiser) several times on their thank you list. There is a real catchy nature to these sorta light songs, reminding me of a damaged PIXIES. Things don't always take off as often as I'd like but for the most part the sound is a much more meaty, less wimpy version of the Midwest emo sound. (Johanns Face, PO Box 479164, Chicago, IL 60647)

The "There is Light" is the third emo memorial release for a deceased friend that has come out that I know of. The (still) awesome "We've Lost Beauty" comp on File 13 and the "In Memory Of Jason" comp that I haven't heard that has a lot of "oooh aaaah loook" bands on it. This CD comp is nice because it is mainly local area bands and is very intimate. CEDAR OF LEBANON kick out a song that is way more active and energetic then any on their EP. TWO THOUSAND YARD STARE have a song full of steady buildups and crunch but stay fresh. DIG DUG, DYNAMITE BOY, and JESSICA SIX all put in awesome pop songs that I find Texas has been pretty good at lately. Out of staters such as SERAPHIM and BRAID also make appearances. (Red Jagwire, PO Box 8317, Austin, TX 78713)

I don't know for sure if SCHEMA has broken up or not, but they do have a discography CD out which has their demo, Subjugation EP, and some unheard stuff s well. The not quite hardcore of this band is among the better kind of UK emo because it avoids getting caught in the groove style for too long. The guitars really know how to it hard here and when they are quiet they are still getting a lot done, and avoiding the wimp zone. Much focus on the vocals but its mixed well so as not to distract. Check this out as well as the other high quality releases on this label. (Armed With Anger, PO Box 487, Bradford, BD2 4YU, UK)

Pioneers Of Emo

The focus of this Pioneers of Emo is going to be one of my all time favorite bands the HATED. Keep in mind that I am talking about the Maryland HATED, not the California one. Now before I begin, some reacted to the last piece I did, on MOSS ICON, with a bit of disfavor. Apparently I wasn't specific enough. My goal isn't to do a Scum Pit write up but only to let you know as much as I know about what records are out there. On with the show.

The HATED were from Annapolis, Maryland and existed from roughly 85 to 89. One of their drummers was Kenny Hill who was in the SPASTIC RATS (Vermin Scum #1) and he was one of the main beginning forces behind the Vermin Scum label. These fellows had a bit of a hippy streak in them, Lance Hahn reports that they wore sandals when they played at Gilman. So, they were definitely at home on the Vermin Scum label and in the Annapolis scene. Their sound has been compared to a cross between RITES OF SPRING and HUSKER DU, which isn't a bad starting point. Just keep in mind that the HATED were about as "emo"tional as a band can get without being wimpy. As good as this band is they really don't seem to have ever gotten much attention, though in the past few years I think this has definitely changed. Many point to the fact that DC was so close and suggest that the bands there kind of stole a lot of that area's attention. Maybe.

There are quite a few HATED releases to keep you entertained. My favorite is their first EP "No More We Cry" (Vermin Scum #2). This is just brimming with emotive and heartfelt playing with nothing held back. There are some acoustic bits which they manage to make rock because they just totally go at it. This was put out in 1985 and I'm not aware how many were pressed but I think well over 500, and I've come across a number in various areas so you should be able to pick it up pretty cheap. If you read my early columns you know that I was desperately looking for their next release, the "Like The Days" 2xEP (Vermin Scum #4+5). I was most glad to get it. This is packaged in an envelope (see emo pioneers!) with a sticker on the front and the lyrics to each song are printed on the record labels. I'm told that there is another sleeve variation but I don't know what it is. Four awesome songs that take off on what was on the first EP. I probably play their LP "Every Song" (Vermin Scum #6) the least of their records. It is still a great record but does have a tendency to lean towards a "rock jam" sound that only a fan can forgive. In '92, I think, a posthumous LP, "What Was Behind" (Vermin Scum #12) was released. This is a great fucking album from start to finish. Incredible lyrics, passionate playing, and one of my all time favorite songs "Less Than Nothing."

There are two comp tracks that I am aware of. One is their fast paced and fun cover of "I Am A Rock" on the "Wedge" comp (Simple Machines #1) which just happens to be the only good record on that label. The song "Ballad" which also appears on the "What Was Behind" LP is on "Panx Vinyl Fanzine #3." I believe that there are a 1000 of each comp, the Panx being easy to grab, but I have yet to see a "Wedge" comp for sale. If you look in the "State Of The Union" comp LP booklet you will see a picture of the HATED and the lyrics to one of their songs. Rumor has it that they were to be on the comp but scene politics kept them off. Members of the HATED have gone on to the terrible indy rock band IDA and Harvard Law School.

Those interested in getting these tunes at regular prices will be happy to know that Troubleman Unlimited will be re-releasing all of the LPs and singles. Mike Simmonetti (not Marvin Gaye) is still working out the format of the reissue. While that is being decided you can whet your palate on a soon to be released EP on Troubleman that will feature two unreleased songs. I hope this was informative for somebody.

Please keep sending your releases in. This column totally depends on labels, bands, and friends sending stuff in because I don't really have the money to blow at the record store in order to keep things current. Take it easy.

ENDNOTES

1.Brian Olson of South Dakota, please get in touch! I owe you a tape but your letter was damaged and I am without your address.

2.Thomas Foote of Miami wrote in with another pactor variation. Should two people pactor each other that is known as a reverse eskimo kiss. Please send me all of you pactor

stories to me at: 1950 McAllister #1, S.F., CA 94115.

3. Please send in a catalog if you run a distro of 10 or more releases that would be of interest to fans of emo. I'm going to have a listing in a future issue and I'm only going to list distros that send stuff in, so get the word out please.

I can't even fucking believe this straight edge shit. What in the fuck kind of sissy can actually walk around with self respect when their main claim to fame is that they know how to say no? Imagine if James Dean was straight edge... he woulda never in a zillion years played chicken with that hood in Rebel Without A Cause, he would've been home drinking milk and listening to Pat Boone or some shit. Christ, I just can't help it, it's too easy to make fun of straight edgers. When ever anybody takes themselves ultra-seriously, I feel like there's some unseen force just begging me to poke fun at them. I try to stop myself sometimes, but when faced with a group of pompous, pimply, pre-pubescent puds wearing green and white lettermans jackets proclaiming: "CHICAGO STRAIGHT EDGE" in bold letters like a fuckin football team, my mouth goes out of control. I HAVE to say something.

Which brings us to the last SCREECHING WEASEL gig. We decided to go all out, renting a fog machine, a bubble machine, video and audio recorders, and zany costumes. I was wearing a shirt that said FUCK STRAIGHT EDGE in big yellow letters. It's a huge shirt, the kind that many straight edgers like to wear and I got it from my friend David, who coincidentally has a drug habit that's limited to an occasional beer. So, we were having a grand old time on stage when I started get to get pelted in the head by ice cubes. Normally that's not too big of a deal, but I peered over the railing that was separating the stage from the audience and saw some hateful little fellow reaching into his backpack and whipping ice cubes with a furious look on his face. Looking closer into his beady eyes I realized it was Tony The Strong. Tony used to be the singer in the only local straight edge band, ONLY THE STRONG, and that combined with his tendency to start fights at shows resulted in his nickname. ONLY THE STRONG broke up, (apparently for a band that wrote every other song about unity, they weren't getting along too well). So there I was, trying to figure out what had perturbed him so much, and I decided to go down and find out what his problem was. Actually, I jumped on him from the top of the railing, which was a stupid thing to do cause I got a hideous scrape on my knee. While rolling to and fro on the floor with him, he told me he didn't want to fight me, he just wanted to know why the fuck I had to wear that shirt. Meanwhile, one of his crew was doing the hokey pokey on my big toe, and his lovely girlfriend was busy kicking me in the head. At this point, unbeknownst to me, my friend and drummer Brian Vermin was attempting to one up my ridiculous stage dive, only he hit a table instead of a straight edger. Mr. The Strong's girlfriend stopped booting me in the ribs to kick Vermin's nuts at which point, in an incredible display of equality between the sexes, he smashed her one in the eye. At this point, Tony and Co. were kindly escorted outside, and we finished our show.

When it was all over, we said our goodbyes and I was prepared to go home and drink until dawn, But wouldn't you know it, the straight edge crew was waiting outside for us. For once the anger was focused off of me and onto Brian Vermin, Esq. It seems Tony wanted to "talk" to little Brian about the minor assault on his girlfriend. He had to be held back from entering the club several times, (some people like being held back when they're angry, it makes them feel important and strong) and, he was alternating between bawling and threatening to beat my faithful drummer's ass. We ended up having to sneak Brian in through the back of the van, Tony asking me "Where is he?" (I tried to tell him that Brians' mom was calling for him and he had to leave but I don't think he bought it).

Nevertheless, we left without incident, although Brian couldn't resist yelling, "See ya later fuckface!" as we were pulling out. Rumor has it that they've declared a war in the streets on us or something, but the funny thing about the whole situation is that several of the straight edgers did have enough of a sense of humor not to take us too lightly. In fact, a S.E. kid from one of the opening bands, IVY LEAGUE, got up on stage with the rest of his band and got naked with us near the end of the set.

See, like I said before, my problem isn't with people who do or don't use drugs, it's with people who take themselves so seriously that they totally set themselves up to be ridiculed. My friend and Weasel guitarist/co-founder Jughead doesn't drink, smoke, use drugs, or swear, no shit! Not doing drugs is fine with me, dressing up like a baseball team, scowling at people and writing songs about unity is ok with me too, I just reserve the right to laugh my ass off at it. Anyway, it was a fun night regardless of all the bullshit, and if they can't take a joke, FUCK 'EM!

"No one ever went broke underestimating the intelligence of the American people." —H.L. Mencken

"Even fewer went broke underestimating the intelligence of MRR readers" —Mykel Board

It's been more fun than a priest-filled meat-grinder. I mean these last couple of years. But before I explain, follow me in a small zen exercise.

First, I undress. Take off the flannel shirt, the GWAR t-shirt, the army boots. One by one I let the clothes fall in a heap on the floor, next to the bed.

I peel off my sweat-soaked socks, drop my black jeans, pull down the black bikini underwear, stopping an instant to scratch.

I stand naked in the middle of the room. Sitting on the wooden floor. I pull in my legs. Concentrating on my own soul, I focusing my attention. I bundle my essence, the internal Mykel Board.

"A u m m m m m m m m m m m m!"
"Aummmmmmmmmmm!"

My soul gathers in my intestines with the gas from yesterdays baked beans. Gas and soul intertwining, my large intestine bloats. Pressing through my insides, the mixture slowly works its way anusward, up across and down that fat tube.

"A u m m m m m m m m m m m m!"
"Aummmmmmmmmmm!"

My essence concentrates pushing hard for release. I stand, take a few steps and then squat, keeping my holy hole just a few inches above the floor. My soul, my being, pleads to be freed from my body. I close my eyes and relax. No force, no tightening, just a softening sphincter.

"Blaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaut!"

A sacred fart and I'm outside, looking up at a tight brown star.

I'm etherial. Just gas floating on the floor. First beneath, now I'm to the side, of the naked body that the world thinks of as Mykel Board. Freed from that body, I can write about *him* from the outside. I can use HIM instead of ME. "Mykel" instead of "I."

I've preformed this gaseous literary trick to allow me to step outside myself and talk about myself as if I were someone else. I am.

****

"How about Mongolia?" asks George in front of CBs, "You go to the punk clubs there?"

"There were no punk clubs there," Mykel answers, smiling. "Whatsamatter, don't you read?"

Somehow the smile doesn't fit the question, but George has known Mykel long enough not to ask about "fitting." But he wonders.

It's the Continental. Big show: The Candy Snatchers, Dirt Cheap, and The Sea Monkeys. Dave, from The Sea Monkeys comes over to Mykel.

"A lot has changed since you were in Mongolia," he says. "I bet it's tough getting used to the new New York."

"Not nearly as touch as you'd guess." Mykel smiles as if amused by a joke only he is in on. Dave wonders.

Others have been wondering too. Most of you have not. You've been too busy complaining about the fire to notice the smell of smoke. But let's examine this more carefully.

Check out the reality. The one you missed.

There's been a change in Mykel, at least in his columns, since he returned from Mongolia. Remember the hyper-patriotic, racist-defending, kid-loving, super individualistic Mykel of yesteryear? Remember the rabid macho-man, the fuck anything-that-moves guy? The one who'd do, but never get done?

Let's look at some of his post-Mongolia columns. How do they compare with the Mykel we've grown to know and hate these many years?

Soon after his "trip," Mykel comes back with a hilarious anti-piercing column. It puts modern punks, the emo-kids, the new guard in their place. That place is much lower than older original punks. This from Mykel who is so supportive of kids' rights that's he's called a pedophile? This from the same guy who writes about how old farts insist on keeping things the same? How old punks are as conservative as old baseball fans? Something's not right here.

In MRR 170, Mykel tirades against racism. He says: *The entire concept of "White Pride" becomes ridiculous. What's there to be proud of? The "white race" has accomplished nothing in history.* This from the guy who walked into Gilman Street wearing a SKREWDRIVER t-shirt?

In the very next issue, Mr. Macho says, "You cannot be a man until you've been fucked in the ass." Does that sound like the same guy who's spent his entire career telling *other people* to bend over?

In 172, he parodies the anti-smoking hysteria with a column on biking. Has Mykel ever smoked? (No.) Has there been one MRR celebrity who is a notorious smoker? You betcha! And does this guy own a bike— or a car? Ten points if you guessed the gas guzzler. Are you beginning to get it yet?

Let's continue; In 173, Mykel writes: *McDonalds are everywhere. So are Burger King and all other kinds of standardization. In fact, one European city is getting to look like another. The same thing has long ago happened in the US Midwest and is now happening in New York. (It's probably illegal to advocate going into STARBUCKS or BARNES AND NOBLES with an uzi, so I won't. But if it weren't...)*

That's practically revolutionary!! A totally anti-capitalist statement from Mr. Capitalism personified. Something is strange, isn't it?

In 175, Mykel delivers a diatribe about ageism and how bad it is to mistreat the elderly. Sure Mykel is getting up there. He should be around 50 or so. But there IS someone older than he is with more at stake in the elderly sweepstakes. Can you guess who?

In 176, Mykel again practically tells his readers to steal books from Barnes and Nobles and then sell 'em at a discount.

The list goes on. But you get the picture. The post-Mongolia Mykel is not the pre-Mongolia Mykel. There's still the self-righteous asshole. The sex-obsessed Jew. But his attitude is different. It's as if he had a political transplant to go with his hair transplant. Well, not quite.

Let's hold the questions and return to the gaseous mass hovering on the floor of Mykel's apartment. That is... me.

I'm going to transport myself now. Seep under the door, down the elevator shaft, out into the New York City streets. I'm going to fly across the country, fighting the jet stream until I enter a large house behind a smaller house in San Francisco.

There, typing feverishly in front of a MacIntosh (a machine as foreign to Mykel as... as... well, as Mongolia), is the editor-now-co-editor of this zine. I'll hover here for a moment. He's sniffing the air, sensing my presence. Now's my chance. Excuse me while I slip into someone more comfortable.

POW! This is Timmy here, writing for myself. I can shit out that Mykel-style gaseous literary device and just write. Unless you're even dumber than I assumed, you probably figured it out anyway. Yeah, it's me. I've really been the one writing this column. I've been doing it ever since Mykel "left for Mongolia." But the story is more complicated than that:

It's 1994. Tired of his Rush Limbaughitude, I give Jeff Bale an ultimatum: Shut up with this pro-Republican shit. Just write about music, or pack your bags and hit the road. Bale bales. Larry Livermore later quits in protest. Soon after, I get a call from Mykel.

"Yo Tim," he says, "I got a problem."

"You mean the Bale thing?" I ask.

"Yeah," he says, "I mean, I'm completely with the guy on the free speech thing and I think he's really getting a raw deal..."

"So you wanna quit, huh Mykel?" I ask.

"Not exactly," I say. "Ya see. The thing about my column is that it gets me laid."

"So it's a choice between your principles or your penis, huh Mykel?" I say.

"You know me better than that," he tells me.

"Sure I do," I say, "That means you'll keep writing."

"Yeah," he says, "I need to exercise those four inches of power. But I feel like such a traitor."

"Well then," I tell him, "why don't you quit— only don't tell anyone. Let me write your column. We'll work out some weird story to subtly change your point of view. Readers won't notice. Keep doing the endnotes for credibility. No one will be the wiser."

"But my style," he whines, "you can't write like I do."

"I can't?" I tell him, "Watch: I WAS MADDER THAN a feminist in a men's room. How about: It was more fun than a priest-filled meat-grinder. Right buckaroos?... See it's easy."

"Okay," he says, "but what's going to be the cover. Maybe I could go on a trip or something. I was already in Japan. Maybe they'll believe that I went back. Or we could try something different. Outer Mongolia or something."

"That's it," I answer. "You go off to Outer Mongolia. That'll explain the changes."

"Come on Tim," he says, "I was just joking. I don't even know where Outer Mongolia is! Nobody's gonna believe I actually went there."

"You come on!" I say, "Remember who you're dealing with. MRR readers. They'll believe anything!"

And that's what happened. We spread the word that Mykel was in Mongolia. I took over the column and made up those Mongolian stories of "cultural diversity."

Yea right, the biggest culture diversity I've had in the last twenty years was the difference between Noe Valley and The Mission. Cultural diversity my T-cells!

Anyway, by the time Mykel "came back," I was in control; comfortable with the style, and on the way to spread my own ideas, giving them the legitimacy of Mykel's sex and scatology. He gets laid. I get your mind.

Why am I telling you this now? I'm not sure. Maybe it's because Mykel's been getting laid more than me these days. Maybe it's to show you what idiots you've been these past years— and always. Maybe it's a wake-up call to think more critically and not swallow what you see printed on newsprint. But whatever it is, buckaroos, the cat's out of the bag now... and there's no going back.

Now, here's THE REAL Mykel's ENDNOTES. Remember, he had no idea what I was going to write before he sent 'em to me:

—> *Seasons Card's returned dept:* Claire from Spring Texas (the girl who sent me the S&M sculpture.)... The post office returned this year's card. I just wonder if you're still alive. Please write!

—> *Yahoo punks dept:* There's a new punk rock search engine at: http://supernaut.nws.net/~bill/search/index.html If you don't know what a search engine is, well, what can I say.

—> *Anti-Freedom Action dept.* I stupidly gave $5 to these guys at an ABC-NO RIO benefit for them. I should have guessed something was up when I heard the chant raise from the baldies, "Marx, Lenin, Trotsky, Mao!" and nothing to rhyme with it.

I wonder why they forgot their real inspiration and Mao's idol, Stalin.

Who'm I talking about? The skinhead ANTI-RACIST ACTION group, that's who. They're now leading the fight against free speech in New York. Among the newest targets is the zine store *See Hear.*

In a recent leaflet they state "Freedom of speech for Nazis threatens freedom for everyone."

When I challenged them on this, they answered "If the Nazis take over, you'll be the first to go up against the wall..."

Fuck, if the ARA takes over I'll be the first to go up against the wall. So it's in my best interest to keep BOTH totalitarian viewpoints in the public eye. Let people can see how similar they are.

If you want to give the ARA your opinion. You can email them at arali97@aol.com.

—> Lou Galluch wrote me from jail. He's lonely and wants to talk/write about punk-rock. Write to him: DE 1806, 1600 Walters Mill Rd., Somerset PA 15510.

—> *These girls should join the ARA dept:* Associated Press reports that MTV has stopped airing a music video by the band Prodigy. It was called "Smack My Bitch Up."

According to the AP, the video shows "women being hit and injected with drugs."

According to people who saw the vid-

eo, that is a lie. But since it's the American press, that's to be expected.

In any case, the *National Organization for Women* thanked MTV "for its early Christmas gift to young women and girls"

But an MTV spokeswoman said they planned Monday's cancellation from the start. Sheryl Jones, vice president of MTV Communications, said the video ran for one week on the network, always between the hours of 1 a.m and 5 a.m. and was accompanied by a warning and a news report on the lyrics controversy.

On Thursday, feminists led by Gloria Steinem and Betty Friedan protested the song in front of Time Warner's corporate offices in midtown Manhattan. They said it promoted violence against women. The song was released by Warner Bros. Records.

—> *See, there are good laws dept:* Police in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho can't walk up and knock on the window of any rocking parked car. A cop who thinks that sex is taking place must drive up from behind, honk his horn three times and wait two minutes before getting out to investigate. Bravo Coeur! Now who the fuck is Alene?

—>Bike Again story: According to an article printed in the medical journal *The Lancet*, and reported by Reuters: Mountain bikes with "extension handlebars" have caused severe liver damage several riders. Bikes, bikes bikes, when with they ever learn... just say no!

—>*A free America or a drug-free America, you can't have both dept:* The following came to me via the internet:

On Thursday, October 27, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency pulled what they called "a detailed administrative inspection." They used this sleazoid technique against the private laboratory of Dr. Alexander T. Shulgin, in Layfayette, California.

Although they filed no charges against Dr. Shulgin, the government conspirators intended to close down his laboratory. Dr. Shulgin, a biochemist and psychopharmacology consultant, is famous for his expertise in plants that get you high.

He's been researching psychoactive substances for more than thirty years. In 1991, he and his wife Ann published their memoirs as a fictional book titled "PIHKAL" (Phenethylamines I Have Known and Loved). The book described their adventures with a variety of legal psychedelic substances. Sasha and Ann also have been outspoken opponents of government intrusion into the people's personal lives.

In the drug war, they're the enemy. Right now, no one knows what will happen to Sasha and Ann. The EPA hasn't mad a final determination about the laboratory. Although the DEA is quiet, it's obvious that EPA involvement only came at their insistence. It looks like the strategy is to use obscure regulations to build up a long list of "health violations," each penalized with a big fine. A hundred violations at $5,000 a pop should be enough to close the lab. Maybe they can get off by saying they didn't inhale.

—> *Sitename of the month dept:* I haven't visited it, but http://www.live whorehouse .com has to win on name alone!

JOEY RAMONE is in the hospital. He went in for surgery on his neck but he came out filled with stuffing and covered in cranberry sauce. Actually I forgot why he went into the hospital, hey old Jews are always complaining about their current ailments right?

IGGY POP now writes theme songs for cartoons. Personally I like the sneaker commercials better.

D-GENERATION opened up for Green Day and got booed off the stage on more than one occasion. Maybe they should wear some pants next time.

The MISFITS got dropped from their label, Geffen and are allegedly signing with Epitaph.

Evan from Furious George is writing a book about GG Allin. He roadied for THE MURDER JUNKIES on their last tour when Evan still sported the Charles Manson look to hide his natural James Woods look.

The MUTE-ANTS from Florida were caught shooting BB guns at a used auto lot in Ft Lauderdale. Dave the Monkey Boy was arrested on a public menace charge and on 3 cruelty to animals charges which he already had warrants out for.

The L.E.S. STITCHES signed a major label deal. The guitar player can afford to get some more plastic surgery. I did notice his face had loosened up a little since the last band he was in that tried to get a major label deal.

Some really bad band called THE PROMISE RING were driving down the freeway somewhere around LA and one of the petite Asian chicks that follow them around decided that the van driver needed servicing. Needless to say, the van needs 4 wheels and 2 bumpers, the chick needs some new front teeth and the driver, well, he really had nothing to speak of down there anyway. The rest of the band promise to wring his neck.

Joey Vindictive forgot to pay his taxes, he also spent all the money on smack, so V.M.L. records is out of business. He was planning on starting a new rap label dedicated to putting out white rap artists from the Midwest anyway.

The SEA MONKEYS have been looking at offers from about 20 or so labels now that their contract is void they seem to be hot shit in all the punk rock circles. They are thinking about doing a double LP on Epitaph, Fat, Crypt, Sympathy or Gern Blandsten. The CANDY SNATCHERS from Virginia Beach are still alive somehow.

Chad ex-drummer for the BLANKS quit because he can't stand Renee making fun of his butt looking big in tight pants. Oh wait, maybe that was some skinhead guy. Wait, all skinheads' butts look big from wearing tight pants. What the hell? Then again, they shave their heads, not exactly fashion plates to start with.

The HANSON BROTHERS from Vancouver now throw real hockey pucks at the crowd with a puck launcher. This way the whole audience will wear hockey gear too. The singer is dating Australian soap opera star Kristy Wright, too!

Slowly, inexorably, the drumbeat delivers us to war. TV leads the way—the news, the talk shows, the press conferences... the long, steady build-up, just like in 1991... except now there's no resistance, organized or otherwise.

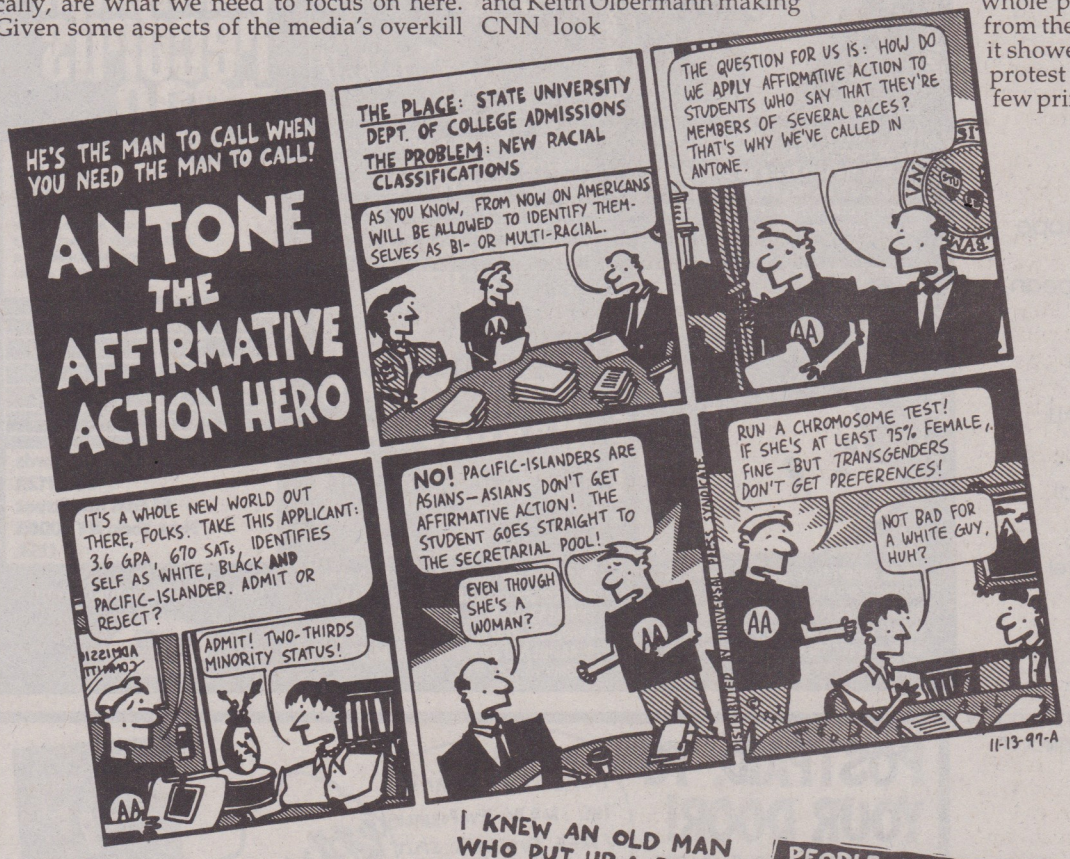
The medium of our such thorough brainwashing is indeed the television—not even a hint of a differing word: no one questioning why the U.S. feels it's entitled to run roughshod anywhere in the world; nobody pointing out that if Saddam Hussein is a bully, warmongerer and evil weapons procurer, then Israel is 1000 times that (it has weapons of mass destruction—unacknowledged nuclear bombs—and has signed treaties and then broken them—like the Mideast Peace Plan—yet the US does not apply the same criteria to Israel that it does to Iraq). And, in comparison, the U.S. itself is that times 10,000; no one talking about the control of oil and geopolitics; no one talking about Pax Americana; no one talking about the necessity for killing tens or hundreds of thousands because the national composition of inspection teams can't be agreed upon; no one talking about how much weapons have changed since 1991 and the military's need to have a war to test them. The only debate seems to be about how far to go... whether to just bomb Iraq into "compliance" or to "go all the way" and kill Saddam.

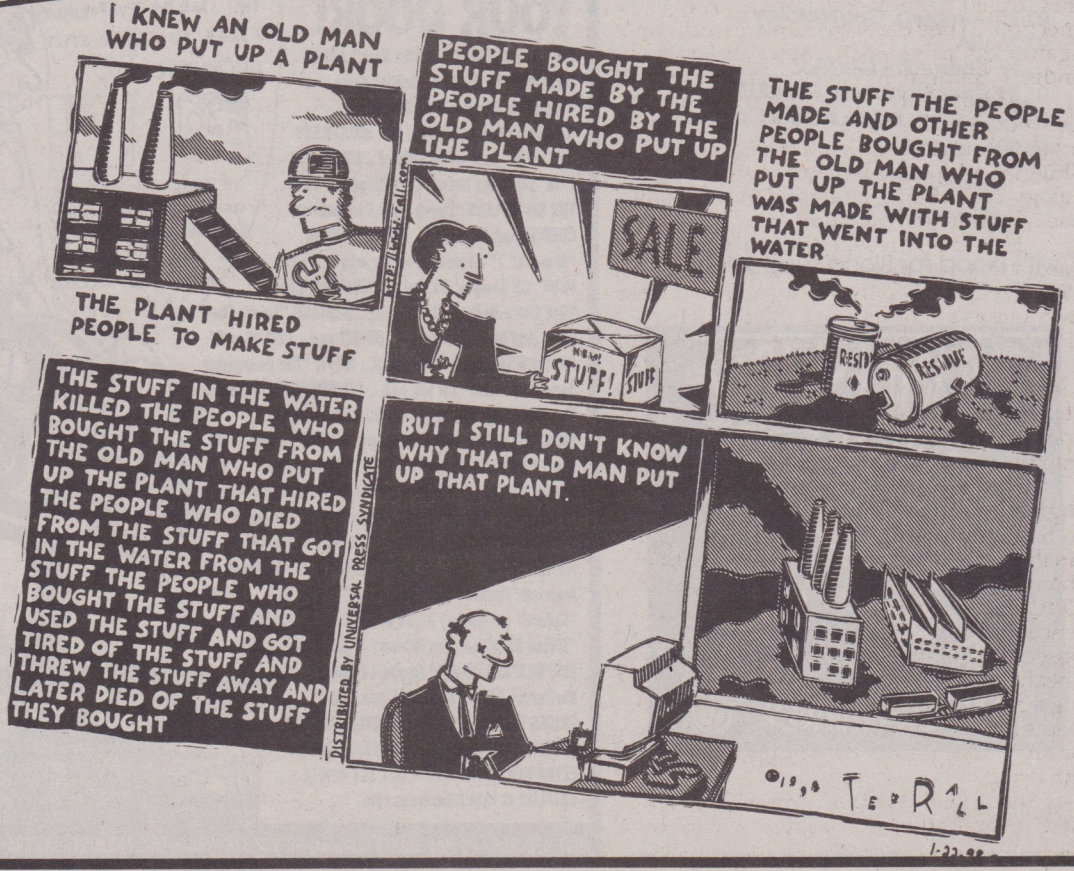
So the country (and the world, given the proliferation of American culture and the "globalization" of mass media) are presented one perspective in mind-numbing quantities (with the popularity of cable, the "news" becomes a minute-to-minute ordeal rather than the hour-to-hour dosage of propaganda it used to be), over and over until we accept this as the only reality. Then, as if to prove the point, the media takes polls where Americans overwhelmingly support the idea of bombing Iraq. So confidant of their control of our minds and weakening resistance are they that they have the audacity to touch on the subject, but ironically it's to point out that Iraq's media is "state controlled and just presents one point of view", knowing full well that most people won't

extrapolate that comment and apply it to our own situation.

Granted, Saddam Hussein is a hard figure to rally behind or feel sympathy for, but the whole process of building up for war, how the public are "prepared" psychologically, are what we need to focus on here. Given some aspects of the media's overkill on the "sex scandal" bullshit lately and the public's rejection of their incessant coverage, perhaps thre is some hope that we can resist the continual seduction. By the way, MSNBC leads the way for the most biased Republican reportage, with Brian Williams and Keith Olbermann making CNN look progressive.

PS. Congrats to the anti-war protesters at Ohio State University who confronted Madeline Albright and Co. on nationwide TV! What was so shocking about that was that it forced the mass media to present a whole point of view previously excluded from their whole war-prep coverage. And, it showed everybody that there is value in protest and that the courageous act of a few principled people can affect millions!!





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Street Rock & Roll

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03.09 BOCHUM, Ger/ZWISCHENFALL
03.10 Oldenburg, Ger/TBC
03.11 Hannover, Ger/BAD
03.12 Cottbus, Ger/Club SÜdstasdt
03.13 Berlin, Ger/DIE INSEL
03.14 Leipzig, Ger/KONNE ISLAND
03.15 Schweinfurt, Ger/ Schreinerei
03.16 TBA
03.17 France
03.18 Switzerland
03.19 Italy
03.20 Italy
03.21 Palotakert, (Near Budapest),Hungary
03.22 Munich/Esterhofen, Ger/ Ballroom
03.23 Cze
03.24 Poland
03.25 Humburg, Ger/Molotov
03.26 TBA
03.27 Chemmitz, Ger/AJZ
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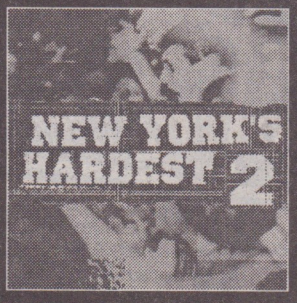

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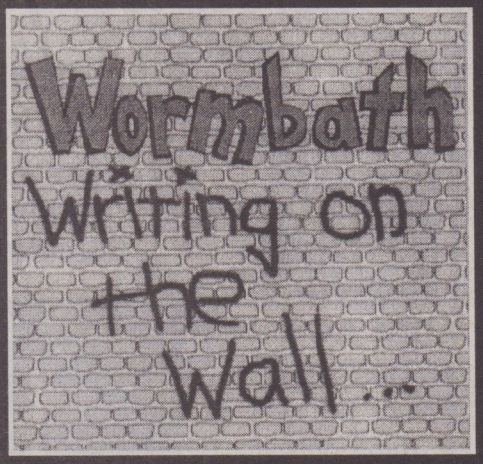

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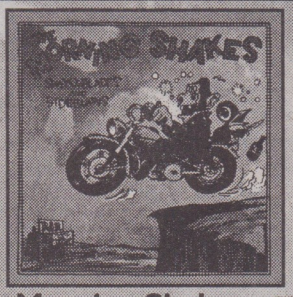

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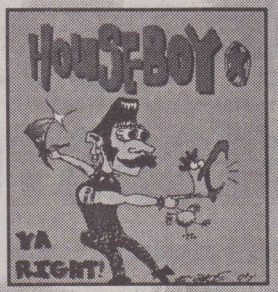

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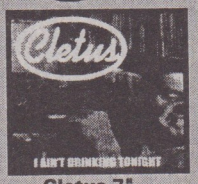

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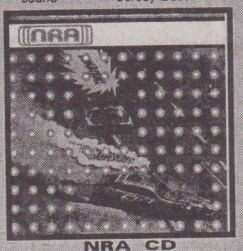

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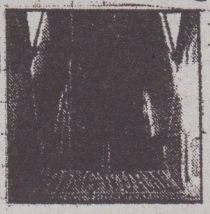

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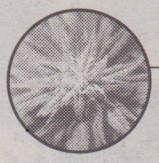

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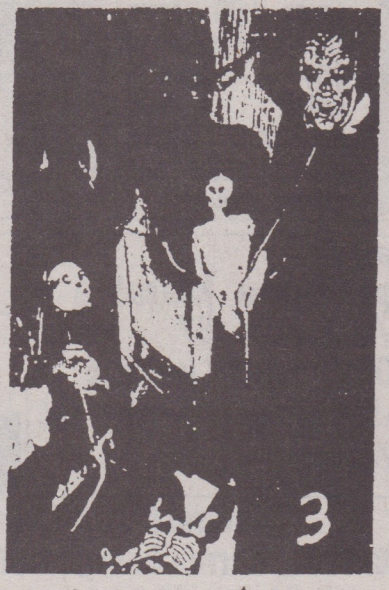

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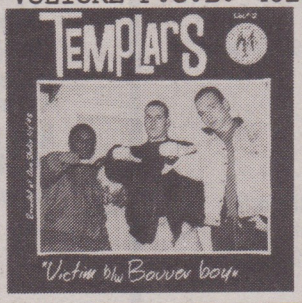

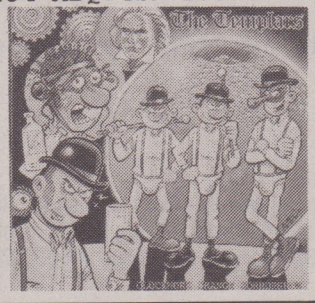

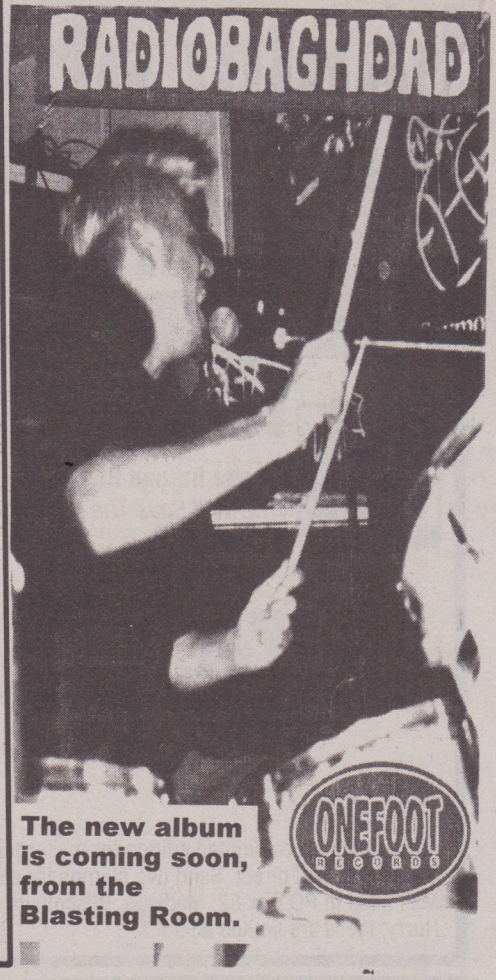

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Scene reports

Hello and greetings from the U.K. My name is Steve. This scene report is far from comprehensive, but it is and attempt to convey at least some of the happenings and goings-on both punk and politically that are currently occurring in the U.K. I hope to be submitting regular scene reports into MRR over the following months, and so I invite anyone in the U.K. who feels they have something to say regarding bands, 'zines, and news to send info to me at the address which will appear and the end of this column. Thanks.

Recently I was up in Bradford at the infamous 1 in 12 Club to see **CRESS**, **ACTIVE MINDS** and **SCUM OF SOCIETY**, who hail from Italy. One other band played also, but unfortunately I missed them. Of those I did see, all were on top form and the turnout was good too, which I'm sure pleased Uncle Sned who put the gig on. **CRESS** I believe are soon to be recording following up last years "Monuments" LP on Flat Earth available from Flat Earth, P.O. Box 169 "Bradford Music?", Bradford, Yorkshire, BD7 1YS, U.K. **CRESS**, if you haven't heard nor seen them yet, play politically-inspired punk with a dash of **ANTISECT** and **GRASS** thrown in there. They toured Europe for two weeks in September '97 which I'm told went down well. Definitely check these folks out as they're really nice people too. Contact **CRESS** c/o 23 Cedar Ave., Lowton, Lancs, WA3 2BN, U.K.

ACTIVE MINDS have a spate of new releases in the works for 1998 including a split 10", a couple of split 7"s together with a whole release of their own. Very active, busy and dedicated folk, **ACTIVE MINDS** show what can be done with commitment and D.I.Y. principles together with a dose of passion. Write to them c/o Looney Tunes, 69 Wykeham St., Scarborough, N. Yorks, YO12 7SA. They also do a distro.

EBOLA have undergone a recent transformation with their old drummer leaving and Pete (ex-**KITCHENER**) taking the sticks and stool. They have also added a second guitarist in the dreadlocked form of Andy (ex-**SCATHA**) who has relocated to Bradford from Glasgow in Scotland. Expect a crushing wall of sound threatening your eardrums soon! Meanwhile, you can still pick up the "Imprecation" EP on Flat Earth / Refusenik at P.O. Box 2018, Hove, BN3 3HS, England. Comes with a totally inspiring booklet too! **SCATHA** are continuing and I believe they have another guitarist to replace Andy. Tim who shares Refusenik, has a new band together called **UNSLUG**. They played their second gig at the S.T.E. Collective's Christmas bash down on the raging South Coast of Southampton. Bloody noisy they were too, with dual male/female vocals from Darren **TADPOLE** and Lara, who is in the process of compiling a vegan cookbook which should be out soon. Write to **UNSLUG** care of the Refusenik address. Darren **TADPOLE** still has some copies of **UNDERCLASS'** final recording. Harsh RORSCHACH-influenced HC, but severely brutal in their own right. Write to him c/o Tadpole Recs., P.O. Box 2804, Brighton, U.K.

Also at the S.T.E. bash were "old" scenesters **GOOBER PATROL** still performing their blend of pop punk with more than a dash of humour. They have a release on Fat Wreck Chords in the States now. Also **SCALPLOCK**, who after two demos have a CD out on Insurrection Records called "Broken History". Blinding fast HC with varying tempo changes. Their newer stuff is getting faster than ever in the **CHARLES BRONSON** vein of things! Lyrically very political with the emphasis on native resistance and stolen cultures. **SCALPLOCK** hope to have a split EP out with THUG from the States in early '98, together with at split 10" with the U.K.'s **ASSERT**. Another release, this time on their own, they hope to have released also in early '98 and it may come with an issue of ***Attitude Problem*** 'zine, still kicking around after a long lay-off. **SCALPLOCK** will be on tour in the U.K. with RAJOITUS from Sweden in April and are looking for gigs, tours, here, there and everywhere. Pete and Martin are ex- of **HARMONY AS ONE**. Write to Pete for the CD, info, at Orchard House, Breeds Rd., Gt. Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 1EE, U.K.

MINUTE MANIFESTO are a relatively-new band from Southampton playing intense Boston-style '80's thrash. A demo is available, so send £2.50 / $3.00 ppd. to Rob c/o 15 Sparrow Square, Eastleigh, Hants, SO50 9LB, U.K. This address is also the home of the S.T.E. Collective, who have been putting on great D.I.Y. gigs since '88. Write them if you want to play in the U.K. Very friendly people. **MINUTE MANIFESTO** will have a split EP out in '98 with Manchester's **GROVER** who play great aggressive pop punk. Rich S.T.E. will also be releasing a new issue of his 'zine ***Passivity - Compliance*** soon too. Same address as above.

Armed With Anger Records has recently released **SCHEMA**'s LP on CD. Haven't seen the finished article yet, but Rich A.W.A. played me the tape of the pre-release and it's definitely very good. If you're looking for classification, it's definitely in the "emo" bracket but have an open mind and check it out. One band who you certainly couldn't classify as being emo are **STALINGRAD**. A possible LP also on A.W.A. is in the works. Write to Rich c/o Armed With Anger, P.O. Box 487, Bradford, BD1 4UZ, U.K.

Also from Bradford, a new **SUFFER** EP on Flat Earth may soon be surfacing. Despite being recorded over a year ago, it has never been mastered until now and the sound is amazing. Really fast HC with Alec screaming his tonsils out! This will, I hope, be out soon.

Talking of 'zines for a moment, I have to admit of not reading too many of late, but I'll mention those I have read and also some others I know of that I'm told are worth picking up. ***Hell and Damnation*** is a great A5 hand-written 'zine which seems to be coming out every 4 months. A great D.I.Y. feel to it, reminds me of early ***Riot*** 'zines. Full of interviews, reviews and news, pick it up from Colin Astro for $1.00 c/o 22 Burns Villas, East Lane, Stainforth, Doncaster, S. Yorks, DN7 5DP, U.K. Another good 'zine I read recently was ***Words (and Some Pictures)***. This was issue one and had interviews with **ACTIVE MINDS**, Dick **CITIZEN FISH** and poet Benjamin Zephaniah who apart from being a totally political radical also gigged with **CONFLICT** back in the day! Some good articles too, this 'zine comes over as being intelligently written and thought-over rather than thrown-together. Available form Mark c/o Box X, 269 Lodge Lane, Grays, Essex, RM17 5PR, U.K. Rich S.T.E. recommends *Psst* 'zine, unfortunately no address but look int review sections of other 'zines. *DDDD* from Simon, Marleys, Minstead, Lyndhurst, Hants, U.K., also ***Chimps*** c/o Layla, P.O. Box 2804, Brighton, Sussex, U.K. Also from Brighton is ***Ventilate*** 'zine which has resurfaced; write Tom, 50 Hollingbury Rise, Brighton, Sussex and ***Rigsby***, a really good 'zine from Buz and Al, 142 Springfield Rd.,

Brighton, Sussex. Also write to Buz and Al for getting gigs as they are part of the Just One Life gig collective who have been putting on cool D.I.Y. gigs in Brighton for over a year or more now and have totally transformed the Brighton scene. ***Suspect Device*** is still going strong. Another 'zine always worth buying. They also release records now on their own Suspect Device label, and next up is a **TRAVIS CUT** CD. **TRAVIS CUT** also had a recent CD single released on Fluffy Bunny Records, available from 20 Elderberry Rd., South Ealing, London W5 4AN, U.K. If you're into pop punk the **TRAVIS CUT** are pretty much one of the best bands you can check out.

'Zines again, and ***Ripping Thrash*** continues its onslaught. Up to issue 14 and getting better with each one still. Steve puts a lot into the U.K. scene, not only with the 'zine but by also doing a tape label. His 'zine is $3 Europe, $4 world. Write him c/o P.O. Box 152, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs, DE14 1XX, U.K.

Blind Destruction Records from Bristol have also been releasing some records of late. Recent releases have been 7"s from **CONCRETE SOX**, **RESTARTS** and **BROKEN**. They do a distro too. Write them c/o P.O. Box 29, 82 Colston St., Bristol, BS1 5BB, U.K.

KNUCKLEDUST from London also had a CD release on Brian's Days of Fury label. Real N.Y.-style HC. The band have been involved a lot in promoting gigs in the London area, D.I.Y.-style. Write to Days of Fury c/o P.O. Box 65, Wallasey, L45 3QE, U.K. and **KNUCKLEDUST** c/o Pierre, 45 Crest Rd., Neasden, London, NW2 7LY, U.K.

Politically, Labour's relatively new government, which obliterated the Conservatives in the General Election last year, are proving that their policies do not seem that far-removed from the Conservatives they replaced. Although everyone was relieved to see the back of the Tories who devastated and divided the U.K. in their 18 years of power, Labour claim they have many tough decisions to make to reverse many of the political decisions taken by the previous administration. However proposed cuts on benefits to single mothers and the disabled have soured the new Labour governments

"bonding" with the public, not to forget to mention either certain backtracks on some policies pledged in their election manifesto. We'll have to wait and see how things develop.

A recent bill to have fox-hunting outlawed was overwhelmingly supported by the MP's of Parliament, but is now at the committee stage and cannot become law until passed also by the House of Lords. Whilst this ridiculous scenario continues, protests at hunt meetings are continuing and will do so as long as this barbaric "sport" prevails. The hunting fraternity are however fighting back also in their attempt to save their "tradition" and the lives of those would be affected by the loss of income. That these hunters slaughter their hounds after they become useless to the hunters' needs anyway is of course irrelevant!

One excellent magazine to pick up is ***Corporate Watch***. Formed just over a year ago ***Corporate Watch*** is magazine dedicate to exposing corporate affairs which affect how this world is run and is a great source of information, giving addresses and info on how you can help throw a spanner in the works. They are up to issue 6 now and also have off-spin publications with titles such as ***Corporate Watcher's Address Book***, containing directors' names and addresses of over 50 companies. ***Degrees of Involvement*** - a report on links between the oil industry and U.K. universities; ***Destroy! Burn! Fell! Obliterate!*** - a guide to companies involved in road-building schemes. Get in touch with *C.W.* to find out more at ***Corporate Watch***, Box E, 111 Magdalen Rd., Oxford, OX4 1RQ, U.K. Send $8.00 ppd. (approx.) for the latest issue. Includes a great listing of other campaign groups who you can write to and get involved with. As the old saying goes, "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem." I could go on forever about punk being political but it's written elsewhere and for now I shall relent!

Ok. That's all I have time to ramble on for at present. I hope this scene report has been somewhat informative. Get in touch with the addresses listed and open communication. Communication is our greatest tool and through it we can achieve so much more. For myself, I hope to have the next issue of my 'zine ***Attitude Problem*** out by February '98 which will cost $2.00 world. My address is Steve c/o A Network of Friends, P.O. Box 2576, Colchester, Essex, CO3 4AY, U.K. Thanks for your time and see you soon.

Pix by Steve "Attitude Problem"

CHINA

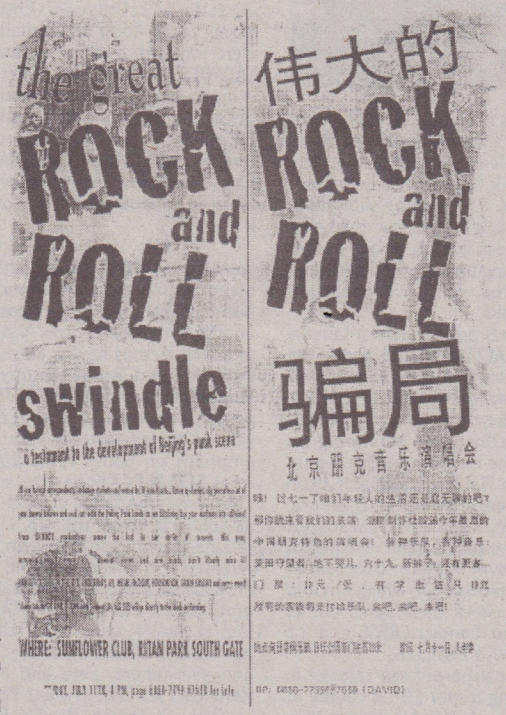
Punk Rock with Chinese Characteristics

The Top 10 Concerns of a Chinese Punk Rocker

1. Where can I get a clean pair of socks?
2. Where is band practice?
3. Who is buying us some beer?
4. Where is the nearest bridge selling pirated CDs?
5. Who came first, Joey Ramone or Sid Vicious?
6. How many stickers can I fit on this guitar (that I borrowed from some heavy-metal guy)?
7. Where are we sleeping tonight?
8. Is there any good Chinese food around here?
9. How many people can fit into this bed?
10. When is my next shower? No, I don't really care anyway!

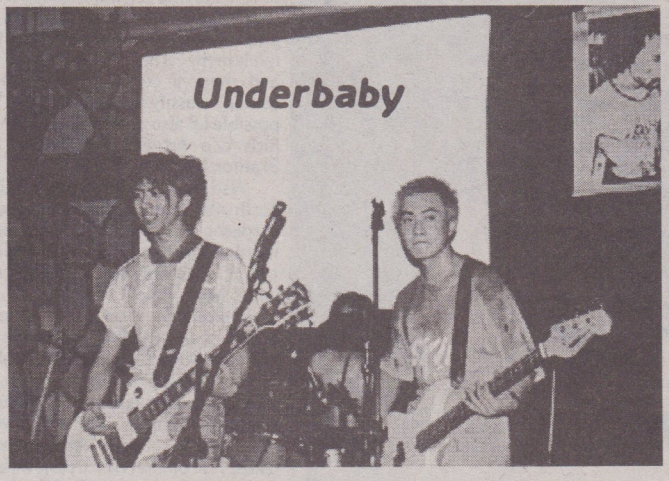
"Anarchy in the P.R.C." BRAIN FAILURE. "If you are a punk in China, you have to fight for your life," says Liang Wei, the lead singer of **69**. He should know because he could get thrown in jail if the Chinese government found his lyrics less than complimentary. But Liang Wei plays music anyway because he is one in a long line of Chinese revolutionaries, he is a punk rocker.

The first time I saw a Chinese punk show was in a little bar at the end of a long dark alley in the University District of Beijing. Liang Wei and a couple of guys in tee-shirts and jeans were guzzling down beer and bleating out tunes like, "City": "This city is a concrete forest and we are the animals." Meanwhile, half of the audience was booing them off stage, while the other half was looking estranged with arms crossed, waiting for the next blues or THE DOORS cover band to come on. This audience also happened to be the hippest of the young generation in China because at least they support the idea of live music over Karaoke. After two disjointed, but loud and original songs, the bar manager asked the band to please get off the stage (after all they so rudely jumped in, without invitation). Instead of getting off stage, Liang Wei told everyone in the bar to fuck-off in Chinese which roughly translates to, "I'll fuck your mother you stupid melon cow pussy." This was **Liu Shi Hi Jiu Yue Dui** or **69** at what was both their first show, and their first band practice. China didn't know it at the time, but these three rude and ruthless young men just introduced her to the world of punk rock.



This past year, Beijing has witnessed a Chinese punk rock explosion. From one band called **UNDERGROUND BABY**, who released their song "All the Same" on a compilation put out by Magic Stone Records in the summer of 1996, Beijing is now blessed with a handful of bands pounding out punk rock music including: **NEW PANTS, BRAIN FAILURE, 69, CATCHER IN THE RYE, COLD BLOODED ANIMAL** and **UNDERGROUND BABY**. In a country where "Yesterday Once More" by THE CARPENTERS is still the all time rock and roll favorite, China's young punk rockers are quite a remarkable group of social outcasts.

In China, punks with blue hair and piercings do not look "cool" or fashionable roaming around on the street, nor do they gain the respect of the average teenage girl. They look like fucking freaks who should be locked away. But they don't care, they do what they want anyway.



"When people see me out on the street they often can't believe that I'm Chinese. When they ask me where I'm from I just say, Mars," says Gao Yang, drummer of 69 and UNDERGROUND BABY and bassist of BRAIN FAILURE. Xiao Rong, the singer of BRAIN FAILURE, who is only seventeen and has dropped out of school to play punk rock music, sports a mohawk because it is "punk in the extreme," he says.

Chinese punkers are unique for many reasons including their lack of outside musical influences, and the tightness of their community. Because the community is so small most musicians play in several bands, so people really have to stick together. There are so few musicians around that people are forced to help each other improve their skills, and play music together instead of competitively. As a result, the scene in Beijing is truly based on creative principles in which musicians strongly influence one another. For example, Li Peng, who plays the drums for BRAIN FAILURE couldn't play the drums at all seven months ago. Li Peng was the ripping guitarist for 69, not a drummer, but who else was going to play?

Most importantly, to be a punker in China is to go against the grain politically and socially which means taking big risks. Bands sing about political and social issues because they believe that although punk rock is musically simple, message is imperative. Chinese punkers take their responsibility for being socially conscious very seriously, and by doing that in China they take much bigger risks than bands in the West. Likewise, the music they make is all the more authentic and passionate for the risks they take, "I think punk means something very different in China than in the Western world. Chinese punks, have to face real life... For punk music to have meaning, it has to touch on the political. The music is very simple, but we have to be smart with our lyrics and influence other young people because as a single person, you don't have any power against the government," says Liang Wei of 69.

Punk rockers in China use their music in the most underground way to affect social change, by interacting with other young people face to face. Even if they even had the opportunity to be mainstream like so many punk bands in the West, it would be too dangerous. "In China you are considered a traitor if you criticize the culture or the government, but we know that we are the real patriots," says Gao Yang.

"Mommy, daddy, grandma, grandpa, why won't you let me go out and play?/Teacher, teacher, teacher, teacher, why do you always treat me like shit?/Doin', doin', doin' time!" BRAIN FAILURE. With a few exceptions, most of the punk rock musicians in Beijing have dropped out of high school, and many live in conflict with their families. "My father doesn't pay attention to the music I make, but he thinks I'm a playboy because I have a foreign girlfriend, smoke cigarettes, put my feet up on the couch, and play music. He thinks my brain is empty because I don't go to school, but as long as I don't talk back, he doesn't care," says Xiao Rong.

"We never go to school/ Don't try to teach us/ We're bad and if you try to teach us/ We'll become even badder." BRAIN FAILURE. Perhaps because staying in school in China demands so much conformity, many artists and free thinkers don't finish. When you are on the margins of society, it is not as easy to ride the fence

Scene reports

as in the West, you really have to take risks and be on the margins. "School is all about rules and punk rock music is about breaking the rules," says Gao Wei, the lead singer of UNDERGROUND BABY.

"When I was a child I sat on this doorstep waiting for mom to come back/ Thinking she would come back soon/ I don't have a simple mind anymore/ I don't know who I am anymore/ Tomorrow will get better/ But when tomorrow comes we'll be old." UNDERGROUND BABY.

At the end of a long, narrow alleyway in the oldest neighborhood in Beijing, coming from inside a traditional courtyard style house, punk rock drum rolls are often heard. This is **Bai Hua** (meaning one hundred flowers) or "crash pad" to local punks. Bai Hua is where it all began a few years ago when Gao Yang and Gao Wei, started UNDERGROUND BABY, China's original punk band. Inside the two room flat is where the brothers first lived on their own and began experimenting with music, and it is where bands still have the opportunity to hang out and rehearse songs. The inner room is converted into a sound-proofed rehearsal studio, while the outer room provides a mattress for homeless punks. The walls are covered with graffiti in English and Chinese like "100% Punk Rock" and "Kiss My Ass." Bai Hua is a place where musicians like Li Peng, who have left their families and live on next to nothing to play punk rock, go to sleep at night. Li Peng comes from a small suburb outside of Beijing where he and Liang Wei originally thought of starting 69. "If I wanted to play music, I had no choice but to leave the town I grew up in. Nobody there understands me, my parents think I'm a freak," Li Peng says.

Even in Beijing, Li Peng is an outcast. In China, without an official residence permit, you can't just move to a new city, and without an official job, you can't get a residence permit. So, Li Peng does it punk rock style. "When I go outside, I wear a hat to cover my blue hair. That way, I'm not asking for trouble," he says.

Chinese punkers definitely have their very own, very classic sense of style, including fashion favorites such as tight jeans, converse high tops, and doggy chains. At the same time, it is common for the band members of BRAIN FAILURE show up wearing Mao buttons, armbands and other Red Army Guard paraphernalia as an acknowledgment of Chinese history. "Punk is not new to China," says Liang Wei of 69. "Thirty years ago China saw a punk movement. In the 1950's and 1960's the Right Party was made of intellectuals who thought there was something wrong with the government. They weren't hooligans, they just respected themselves and wanted to right the things that were wrong with society. Maybe they had a different name, but they were still punk," Liang Wei says.

In recognition of the relationship between past and present, many of 69's songs are written to the tune of songs traditional Chinese music. 69 is now working on a song called "Your Story" based on the style of Peking Opera. Many of their songs use tunes from the Cultural Revolution in China. Ironically, during that period of Chinese history young people were only permitted to learn a certain set of nationalistic songs, and could get in serious trouble for listening to Western music. Today, the members of 69, influenced by Western music, play their own songs to the same tune. "Lenin said, 'If you forget the past, you won't know the future.' This is especially true for China because China has such a long, painful history. Rock and roll came from the West, but we can mix it with Chinese culture to create something new and very different," says Liang Wei.

"I can't see the sea/ I can't see sky/ I can't see the sun/ I have no food to eat/ I have no clothes to wear/ I only have music," UNDERGROUND BABY.

In China, it's not very easy creating a space where punk music can develop. Most of the time, bands have nowhere to rehearse, make no money for playing shows, and little or no hope of being signed to a record company. The only rock-n-roll record companies that sign Chinese bands are based outside of the mainland, so there is little hope of establishing an underground or punk rock record company in the near future. This is a tough future for bands to face because their only shot inside of China is signing on to a pop label. "For the future of punk in China, I just hope that it will be known, it will be a category of music. Now there is only pop music. Pop music is a declaration of the government leaders' organ. It's fucking boring. Sing a song for the government," says Liang Wei.

In the beginning, 69 and BRAIN FAILURE had no place to rehearse and few instruments, so they would take over bars, or go along with the few existing punk bands and play between sets. Most bars in Beijing cater to businessmen and likewise were not concerned with supporting a punk scene, or showcasing less than polished acts. At one bar in particular, the owner was notorious for throwing BRAIN FAILURE off stage. That is how they came up with their first original song. "There is a stupid cunt standing across from me watching me/ There is another stupid cunt standing next to me, watching me/ But I don't care/ I'll still play."

Things are changing here as quickly in the punk scene as in the rest of China. Last year came the first foreign punk bands ever to rock out in China. It all started the summer of 1997 when British punk band PREGNANT MEN came to Beijing. Then, in November, three more bands came to Beijing to start their China tour. The bands included 100 LOTS and ENVY, both from Japan, PRIDEBOWL from Sweden, and a representative from Lao Dong Records, in Hong Kong. The visiting bands played three nights of shows along with Beijing bands UNDERGROUND BABY, BRAIN FAILURE, 69 and CATCHER IN THE RYE. Although at times it was rough for the visiting bands to get accustomed to Chinese living (particularly the pig intestine soup that the drummer of PRIDEBOWL would rather starve to death than eat) the exchange was both musically and culturally positive. Johnny, the representative from Lao Dong Records, was impressed by the Beijing bands, "Their sound is really unique, not like anything outside of China. Much more old-school. They don't have many outside influences so they have to create their own style, and that is really punk rock!" he said.

Although the crowds weren't always big, and none of the bands got paid, the Chinese bands listened intently to what the foreign bands brought from outside. "They were totally cow pussy!" (meaning fucking awesome!) says Gao Wei of UNDERBABY, "I have never heard anything like that before, not live."

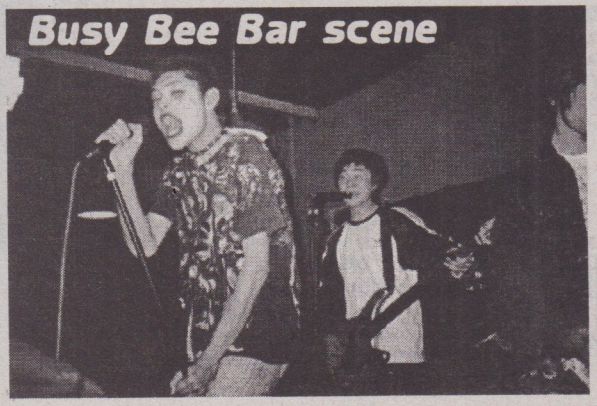
This new generation of Chinese musicians didn't grow up watching MTV. Gao Yang says that there was never any such thing as a live music concert until he was at least eleven years old. Chinese punkers grew up in a society so totally closed to outside influences, that the recent influences which have come from the outside really make an impact. "The first time I heard punk rock was "Rock and Roll Swindle" by the SEX PISTOLS. I heard the song "Go Johnny Go" because You Dai (a local DJ) played it on the radio. I remember thinking, "Fuck, this is so cool!" It wasn't sugary like most of the music you hear in China, it was powerful and insane," says Xiao Rong.

"We and our fathers walk down revolutionary road. Our generation is a movement that needs power," 69.

Power is exactly what defines punk rock music for Xiao Rong. "Punk rock is the most powerful form of music around. I always play with my guitar below my dick. Sometimes I even make mistakes because my guitar is hanging so low, but I like it that way. When my guitar is low, I can use my power and use my anger. If you are a punk, you use your anger, you have a fist in your brain that needs to beat down the fucked up things about society," he says. Luckily, the Chinese government probably isn't aware that punk rock exists. As for the future of punk rock, Xiao Rong muses, "If the movement grows, and we have a big, huge concert, and everybody's hair is green... that could become dangerous." By Anna Sophie Loewenberg.

Contact Gao Yang (UNDERGROUND BABY) at: Beijing Shi Xin Jie Kou/Dong Xin Kai Hutong №21/ Beijing 100035/P.R. CHINA.

Opening graphic by Liang Wei



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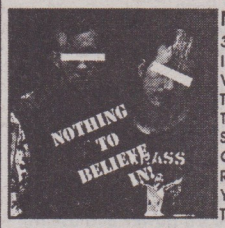

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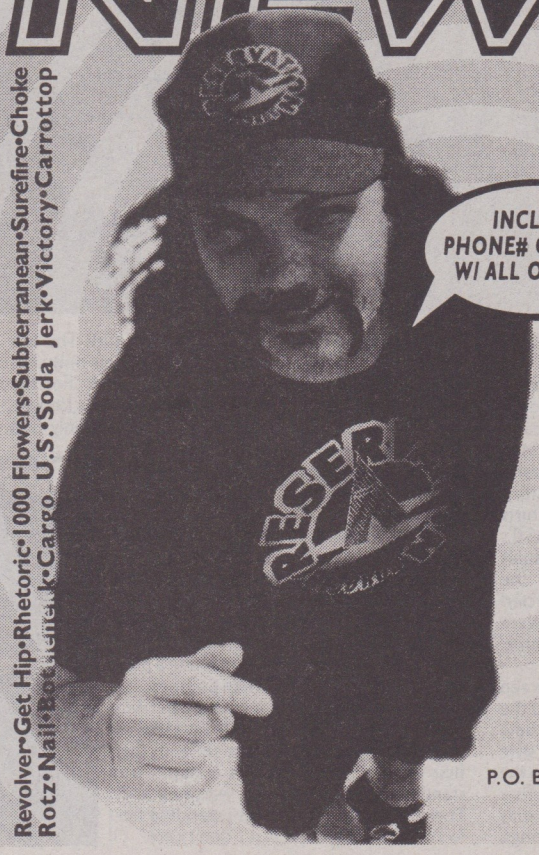

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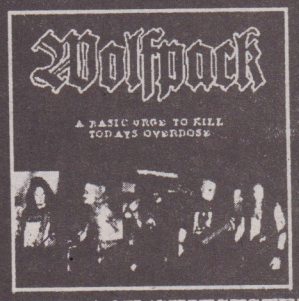

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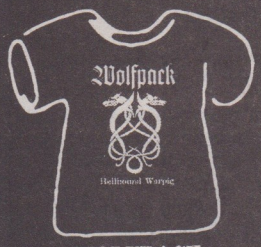

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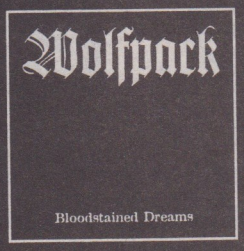

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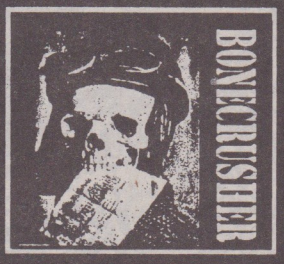

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MAXIMUMROCKNROLL
NEWS
April 1998 Page 1

At War With Iraq

On February 15, 1998, the International Action Center held a premiere showing of the video "Genocide by Sanctions". This video is an effort to document the effects of the United States ongoing war against the people of Iraq. Unbeknownst to many Americans, the war against Iraq did not end with the gulf war bombings in 1991. 1.6 million people in Iraq have died as a result of the current sanctions being imposed by the U.S., half of these victims being innocent children. The main causes of these deaths being scarcity of food and medicine. In the video "Genocide by Sanctions" we are taken on a tour of a hospital and pharmacy in Iraq. The tour is being led by former attorney general Ramsey Clark, and the scenes captured are a clear indictment of U.S. foreign policy. Hospitals are filled with patients who have no hope of survival due to things such as a lack of clean drinking water, and or simple medications for conditions long considered curable in "civilized" countries. This is happening in a country that is very wealthy but unable to obtain simple resources due to U.S. sanctions. Iraq was in fact a very modern country prior to the gulf war bombings, before food silos, powdered milk plants (which the U.S. claimed were chemical weapons plants), and water purification plants were blown to smithereens. A country that

continued on page 2 col 3

Punks In The News:
They don't even have a clue...

• January 28: Dayton Daily News, front page: Michael Dyer Jr, a 15 year old, sues the school board of Tecumseh Local Schools claiming illegal search and violation of his right to free expression. In September Michael refused to open his mouth so the principal could "conduct a search." He was suspended for "failing to obey", even though there is no school rule which bars students from weirding body jewelry. He was later suspended for violating the newly enacted dress code.

• January 29: Los Angeles Times, front page: Straight edge kids in Utah face federal charges for a raid on a local mink farm and a bombing of a fur breeders cooperative. The Utah police think that straightedge is "the fastest growing" gang in the area, "suburban terrorists" who act as "moral watchdogs" to the rest of punk rock. "[T]hey view themselves as courageous sober soldiers in a dangerously corrupt and polluted society. And they enforce their mantra—True 'Til Death—with brass knuckles, baseball bats, knives, Molotov cocktails and pipebombs."

Utah schools confiscate straightedge clothes, weapons, and pamphlets (zines), and parents are "broken up" when they hear their kids are "members".

COLUMN ONE

'Straight Edge' Gang, Twisted Code

• Utah offshoot of anti-drug, animal-rights movement has mutated into a violent group of 'suburban terrorists.' Parents, authorities are struggling for answers.

By MARK SAMUELS
Times staff writer

SALT LAKE CITY—Two years ago, Chase Coby didn't smoke, drink or use drugs. He was a high school honor student with no police record. All decided that straight edge was anti-establishment, so the name of another group, he chose it for himself.

Soon he was a leader of the Utah chapter of straight edge, a movement that began in Washington, D.C., in the early 1980s as a backlash against the drug-and-booze excesses of punk rock. Straight edge kids don't drink, smoke, do drugs or have casual sex. Many are vegetarians and oppose animal testing.

Coby, 20, says straight edge helped him turn his life around. He was kicked out of his parents' home for drinking and drug use when he was 16 and was living on the streets of Salt Lake City when he discovered straight edge.

But straight edge, which started out as a peaceful protest against the hedonistic lifestyles of many punk rockers, has undergone a violent mutation in Utah, according to police and prosecutors. They say straight edge has become a gang that has been responsible for a string of assaults and vandalism attacks on punk rockers who don't adhere to straight edge principles.

What's Straight Edge? That's what authorities in Utah want to know as they try to figure out the motives behind a series of bizarre crimes.

Confusion over the meaning of straight edge is part of the problem. Some straight edge kids say the movement is not violent and that the violence is the work of a few individuals who have misinterpreted straight edge principles.

Others say violence is inherent in straight edge philosophy. They point to the name of one straight edge band, Youth of Today, whose song "Straight Edge" includes the lyrics "Don't need to drink to be cool / Don't need to smoke to be cool / Don't need to fight to be cool / Don't need to kill to be cool."

Coby, who is straight edge, says he has never been violent and has never condoned violence. He says he has been unfairly blamed for violence committed by others.

Coby and other straight edge kids say they have been harassed by police because they look different from other kids. Police say they have been harassed by straight edge kids because they look different from other kids.

Police say straight edge kids have been responsible for a string of assaults on punk rockers who don't adhere to straight edge principles

Rock For Life - the Christian Presence within Punk Rock

Music has long been key in introducing political beliefs to the young. This is something that is at the heart of punk, where we communicate our ideas about the mainstream culture and alternatives to it through our songs and records. It is at the heart of "Live AID", "We Are The World" and other projects which seek to publicize a particular cause and raise money on it's behalf.

The Rock For Life campaign is beginning to expand into punk and "alternative". Their mission statement tells us that Rock of Life is "committed to bringing the truth about abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia to the youth of America. These young people are being deceived and manipulated by the music industry and many of the secular rock bands who play concerts to raise money for pro-abortion causes. They are feeding our youth with the lie that abortion is not only an answer to their problems but a right they must fight to protect. Rock For Life has brought together many bands who stand for the truth that abortion is the killing of an innocent human being." The statement continues, "Rock for Life exists to give the youth of today a voice in the pro-life movement, enabling them to stand up among their peers against the destruction of their generation." They ask members to sign a pro-life pledge, which includes, "We will no longer sit silently by as our generation is being systematically slaughtered through surgical and chemical abortion. This is our generation, these are our brothers and sisters and we commit to fighting for their lives. You will not silence our message, you will not mock our God and you will stop killing our generation." Rock For Life also supports and help fund Operation Rescue, and at this time their main goal is youth recruitment.

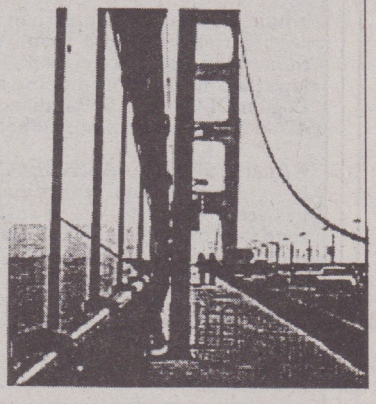
The presence of Rock For Life, as well as conservative and pro life bands within many facets of punk needs to be challenged. Religious intolerance and right wing conservatism are ideas which punk has sought to fight for a long time. We cannot stand by as these ideologies creep into our scene. Priscilla Grim is working on a research project following the ultrafundamentalist movement in America. For more information on her work or what you can do, contact her at: pgrim@freenet.columbus.oh.us. To contact Rock For Life directly, PO Box 82714 Portland, OR 97282, 503-238-0457, Rock4life1@AOL.COM.

THE NEWS NEEDS YOU
MRR is always looking for news items, articles, newspaper clippings or calender events to supplement the NEWS section. We need you to be the eyes and ears and to pass on any leads that you come across. We also like political cartoons, commentary and comic strips. Send them in!

From the *SF Weekly*

The Incident

In the middle of the afternoon on December 2nd, 1997, a man strolled onto the Golden Gate Bridge walkway carrying a short ladder. Mid-span, he stopped and waited as bicyclist approached from the other direction. Strapped alongside the bike was a full-sized diving board. Together, they quickly attached the components to the railing and then took off in opposite directions leaving behind a functioning diving board jutting over the water. With security cameras now watching every portion of the bridge, the authorities were quick to respond. The diving board was dissembled twenty minutes later. Two men were detained, questioned and then released for lack of evidence.



IRAQ

continued from page 1 column 2

once imported 70% of it's food and resources is now unable to, and the ones who suffer the most are as always the children. Why is this happening?

The U.S. spends somewhere in the area of 50 billion dollars on maintaining a military presence in the gulf region every year. At the same time this is happening outside of Iraq, a country that holds two-thirds of the world's oil supply, the people are suffering and dying from preventable conditions. The U.S. media claims that Iraq has violated U.N. resolutions as a justification for the genocidal sanctions now being imposed on them. Where as Israel has violated 66 U.N. resolutions without U.S. repercussion. In fact the U.S. is currently in violation of the Geneva and other U.N. Conventions by their refusal to lift these murderous sanctions. In November of 1997, President Clinton signed a directive authorizing the use of tactical nuclear weapons against Iraq. This is a violation of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which both the United States and Iraq have signed. As for world wide support of sanctions and the threatened start of new bombings, which by the time this is printed might already have started, China, France, and Russia have all come out publicly against these actions. Ramsey Clark summed it up best when he stated, "We destroyed their capacity for agriculture. we wiped out their electrical power. We destroyed all of their stored fertilizer, insecticide, and food processing plants in the entire country. We destroyed the life support systems for the people of Iraq. We have systematically destroyed their health care system, transportation, and communications. We sealed their borders. These are all direct results of the sanctions.". Why would the United States wage such a cruel and unjust war as this? The answer to this question can be traced back to 1958.

Prior to 1958, all oil interests in Iraq were controlled by the U.S. and England who installed puppet government after puppet government in order to maintain control. In 1958 there was a revolution in Iraq, and soon after that the oil interests in Iraq were nationalized. The current blockade against Iraq is an obvious attempt at regaining control of a very rich country. Already the U.S. has upped it's share of the world wide oil market by 3 million barrels. Call it what you will, imperialism, neocolonialism, etc., the bottom line is that it is out and out murder. By the time this article hits the stands there will already be many demonstrations under way, but there will be many more needed. The International Action Center is also starting a "Medicine for Iraq Campaign". You can reach the I.A.C. at the bottom two address'. These are also good starting points for getting involved in the many anti-war demonstrations that are bound to take place if the bombings begin.

39 West 14th St. #206, New York, NY 10011 - http://www.iacenter.org

2489 Mission St. #28 San Francisco, CA 94110 - npcsf@igc.org

Report by Jay Unidos.

•Announcements•

Joseph "Stoots" Ciauri of the band FYP committed suicide on January 14, 1998. *Please see the letters section for more information.*

On January 19, Richard "Lucky" Gargano II, committed suicide. He is a former member of bands such as Fifteen, The Leftovers, and Eight and a Quarter. He was 28.

Phillip "Lip" Jamet - DPW - died in February. His death was accidental. He is survived by his wife, Sherry, and son, Miles.

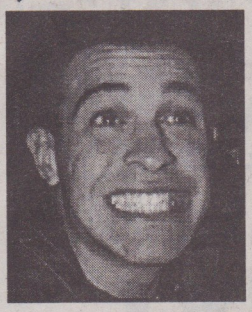
The Promise Ring had to cancel most of their February tour dates after a serious van accident after hitting a patch of ice on the freeway. All of the members survived though there were some injuries.

WHATS THE SCOOP ?

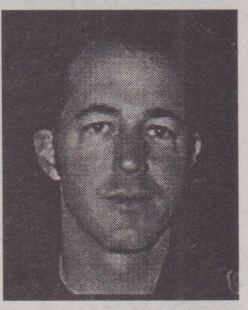
by Brianna

this month's question:

What do you think about the come-back of Straight Edge and Christian HC?



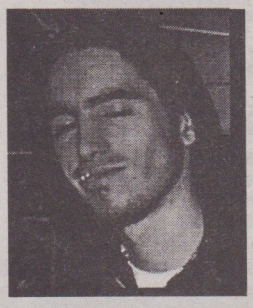
"All Christians had better repent before they go to hell."
Danny, San Francisco



"It was a phase I went through too, it was good, and better to be an alcoholic than a Christian. How is it that punk ideology as it's gone through the years reinvents itself in ways that forgets what's important, and if being a Christian punk is a positive thing, it's a weird trade-off. Whatever kind of constructive values can be grafted on to something that has really positive sides, but how do you dissect those? Is punk rock going to take Christianity and distill it out into its component parts? As strong as punk can be, I don't expect it to be able to do that."
Bill, Austin TX

"I think it's lame."
Heide, San Francisco

"I think it's suburban, puritanical, and juvenial."
Steve, San Francisco



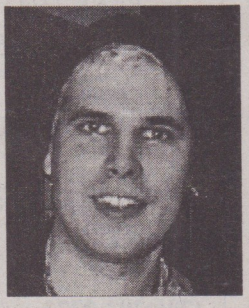
"I live who I want to live with, hang out with who I want to hang out with. I would rather hang out with who I choose to hang out with, not just Straight Edge friends. I think it meant a lot more to the people fifteen years ago."
Dan, South Carolina

"I think it is intellectually defunct."
Brian, Berkeley

"The new Straight Edge folks are kind of hectic, very verbal, their dance style sucks, They're very unfriendly dancers. It's good they're united, but the way they are, the way they dance, their attitude sucks dick. The music's good, it's always clean. The Christian part about it, I have no clue."
Joe, San Francisco

"Beyond Christian, it's you're own choice. Straight Edge died in the early eighties. It's in your head...I didn't even know there was a comeback, that's news to me. It creates hatred, it's really stupid."
Jeff, San Francisco

"I know a lot of Straight Edge people, It's an interesting choice and I don't think I could do it, but more power to them, it's their own choice. I don't go for religion. It depends on why people are doing it, too. When you start getting into religion, it's a whole different issue. Christianity I can't really stand, but it's their thing."
Laihla, Anaheim



"My girlfriend and I were looking at a Straight Edge zine this morning, and she said, 'Can you imagine how it would feel to be that stupid?' and I said 'No. I really can't."
Ernst, San Francisco

"I don't have much of an opinion on that."
Amanda, Berkeley

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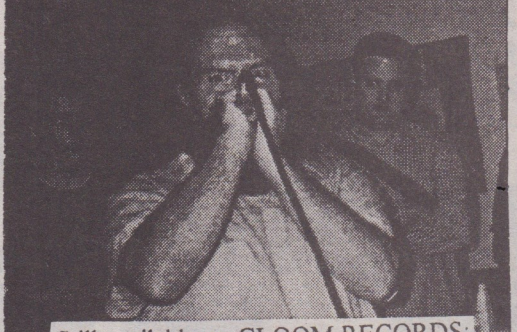

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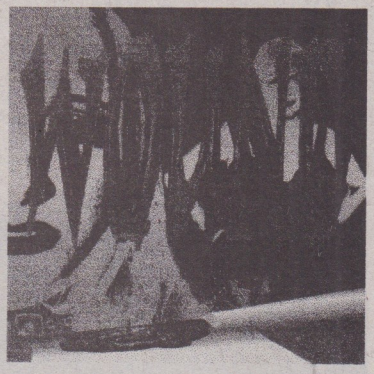

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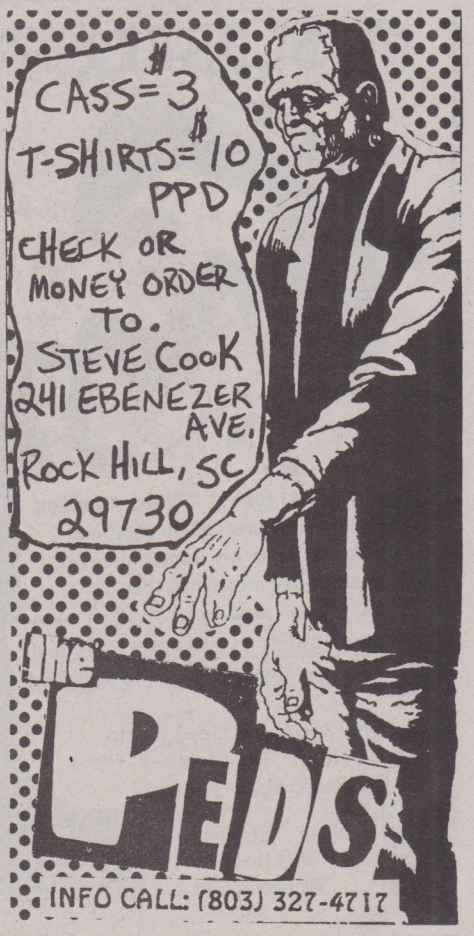


boy sets fire

Doing this interview taught me a few things. First, it reminded me that most interviews should never be longer than an hour, and it is important to be prepared and to direct the conversation (not let it stray way off the point or linger on one point for too long), so that the discussion moves along and doesn't drag out for a couple of hours. If you can't make your point in an hour or less, well.... This is a short excerpt of the beginning of the conversation which was quite lengthy.

It also drove home the point that interviews need to be edited, and that it's OK to print an interview which has summaries of what was said instead of literal transcriptions of what transpired. (In some ways, the whole "real journalism" versus "punk journalism" argument all over again.) Even though I summarize a lot of what is said at the end, you get a good idea from this excerpt of who these people are and how they interact.

Boy Sets Fire is one of the few bands who's live set interested me enough the first time that I saw them that I went out and bought their record. I like them because they have set out to change the world. Maybe you disagree with their methods or their strategies, but they have the will and the motivation that a lot of us need. They are often lumped in with emo/hardcore bands, though they play with a more intense, harder sound usually. The lyrics are political and they talk a lot between songs. This interview took place after their show at Gilman Street this summer. Boy Sets Fire is Josh: Guitar, Darrell: Bass, Chad: Guitar, Matt: Drums, and Nathan: vocals. Questions by Ramsey Kanaan and Jen Angel. Photos by Leah Urbano.

The interview started out with introductions and the most predictable first question of them all.

Jen: I want somebody to give me a really short history of the band.

Josh: Three years... this is our fifth tour. We wanted to start a band that had something to say and was fun to do musically, and what else would you like to know?

Jen: So, what do you have to say?

Nathan: Do you really want to know what we have to say?

Jen: Well, Yeah. See, I know what I want to ask you guys about, but I want to know what you guys think is important about...

Nathan: What we say?

Jen: Yeah, and I'll ask questions after that.

Nathan: I think one of the things that we've tried to do is get out there, is for .. .number one for people to get over their lousy scene cliques and the hierarchies that go on in the scene. and hopefully start trying to work more toward unifying as opposed to separating. A lot of bands say that but....

Matt: But we really mean it...

Chad: We're just a rip off...

Nathan: I don't want it seem as if we're the only ones who do this coz we're cool. Another message that we try to purvey is

Chad: Communication.

Nathan: Yeah, communication...

Chad. We think it's very important.

Ramsey: OK, then I have a question about.. all of you guys... except Matt.. play with your backs to the audience.

Nathan: That's not really on purpose. It just sorta happens.

Chad: Well, for me personally...

Jen: You even put the mic stand facing away...

Chad: That's coz I ... honestly I used to face forward but I felt really uncomfortable. Just like, if I fuck up, people are going to be staring at me, and all of that. I just feel much more comfortable staring at Matt who I find *very* attractive... and, seriously, basically feeding off of him..

Matt... Coz I blow kisses to him...

Chad.. I just feel a lot more comfortable in the immediacy of playing, and opening myself up, coz that's a very raw sort of feeling for me. I just feel more comfortable... actually, I feel like I'm standing naked. And I kind of am, emotionally.

Nathan: I guess I just find singers who stare at the audience sort of pompous, it's a little weird.

Ramsey: You don't think though, you're saying you want to communicate, that it's almost a very bizarre way to communicate with someone? See, if we're having this conversation, and I turned my back, that would be fucking weird.

Chad: Well, personally, I'm not communicating with my eyes, and my face at the moment, I['m communicating with my hands, and my instrument.

Ramsey: If they can't see you, Then why shouldn't they just listen to your records?

Chad: Well, you an listen to what I'm doing. What I'm giving out at that specific point, aside from my emotional little sphere that I have, is a feeling of music. and that is faced directly at people, and they can here that, and it's basically me playing, and it's not necessarily that people need to see my hands or see my face, they just need to hear what I[m trying to get across.

Nathan: I may have totally misunderstood this, but you said something like, 'people are paying money to come see you, and you're turning your backs...' Did you mean that we have a responsibility to turn around because they're giving us money?

Ramsey: No, I think you have a responsibility to... well, you really don't have a responsibility to do anything, but... people pay money and have a certain set of expectations, and that's fair enough. One is to be entertained, ie to enjoy the experience,

Nathan: Well, see, I don't feel that we're a commodity...

Ramsey: Right, so if you're not entertainers, it's more important that you're communicators, so the initial question was with you're backs to the audience the whole time that is not a very effective tool ...

Josh: But there's more to communication than eye to eye communications.

Ramsey: I'm not saying that it's a contrived thing, in I think there must but... there's a certain house style among emo bands that only the ones... like all of the ones who came together tonight they all had their backs to the audience. Just the same as there's a certain house style amongst hardcore bands that go on about the crew or unity or whatever. That can't just be entirely coincidental.

Darrell: I don't think the... I think it's counterproductive to separate into hardcore bands and emo bands and punk bands and it's completely counterproductive. And it's even more to take emotion out of what we're doing if we're consciously thinking "OK I have to face these people, I have to look at this person." I think it would really take a lot out of it if I had to think about all of t hese other obligations I had instead of just playing and putting my heart and soul into what I'm doing. I think it would really take a lot out of it. Emotionally, for me.

Matt: One of the things, also, is that I know I hardly ever look up when I play, and when I do it's at the people that are on the stage with me that I'm playing with. And the reason for that is that I concentrate very hard on what I'm doing, and I want it to sound good, and I know if I was just kinda looking around and ...you know what I mean?

Ramsey: I mean, no one really gives a fuck about the drummer anyway, let's be honest. (laughter and yelling)

Jen: Anyway how do you feel about being labeled and emo band? And, you said earlier that you think it's counterproductive etc to separate or label, but how relevant do you think that garage is to what you do, or what different kinds of punk ... .how in touch are you with what they're doing?

Josh: The way I feel about that, and I've had a couple of discussions about this, is that I really depends on band to band. And how they conduct themselves and how they feel about their music and sort of their ethics, and the way they do it. We played with a "punk" band the other day, somewhere, and I shouldn't mention their name but basically they were a rock band with piercings, because they could talk the lingo, they discuss opening the market to further music research, a lot of.... moving units. Business talk, and they dedicated a song to all the chicks in the crowd, to me they have as much to do with me and the music that I do, as Bon Jovi. OK? But they're also bands like, the one that's always brought up, Rain Like The Sound Of Trains, who are 100% DIY in the way that they conduct themselves, and they pretty much play funk. But I have more of a connection with them, than I do a band like the one I won't mention.

Chad: I've been playing music since I was about in third or fourth grade, and I think I was banging on pots before then or doing whatever, and, I mean, naturally there are certain styles of music I prefer to play, but it don't think that music or the style of music should be the defining aspect of what this movement is. I think rather, the ethics and the ideas, and the mindset should be the defining aspect. So when you guys say, "Oh this is an *emo* show," or whatever, if this is all being done through the same movement with the same ethics and the same ideas, and generally with what would appear to be the same goals, just redefined often, I really do think it's counterproductive to do that. Because it only further separates things.

Ramsey: What exactly is "The movement?"

Chad: The movement? When I refer to that I guess you could use a lot of words for it...

Ramsey: Can you be more specific, though? You've mentioned before that it's important to have unity, and to build community... build community with whom? and for what?

Chad: What I would say is the hardcore movement, or the punk movement. You could label it whatever you want...

Ramsey: You just said that you no affinity with the punk movement or the hardcore movement, that it depends on the message or the integrity or intentions o f those involved.

Chad: I use terms like "punk" and "hardcore" and "DIY" pretty much interchangeably, because I think they all represent the same movement. And I feel an affinity toward the ideas and the ethics which are presented in that movement.

Ramsey: Can you capsulate what are the ethics?

Chad: I think that there's an inherent questioning of learned social values and of higher ups and hierarchies. I think there's also a questioning of traditions, things like that. Certainly an effort to tear down boundaries between people. Between nations, between genders, and things like that. And also a rejecting of the sort of cold, daily turning of society. And really looking at things from more of a human perspective as opposed to a dollar perspective. That would be my...

Ramsey: So, good natured liberalism, basically.

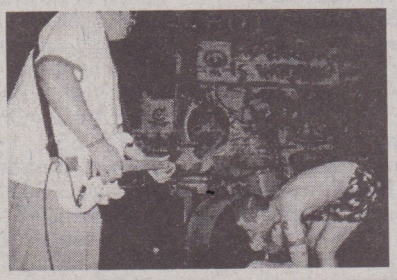
Nathan: Yeah, basically.
Josh: Remember, the word liberalism comes from liberty and we shouldn't put down liberalism all of the time.
Ramsey: No, but you said you have a sense of community with certain people with certain ideals.... we're part of movement or we want to build a movement to communicate...but to do what and with whom?
Nathan: We are not ... we are a group of people who have several opinions on different things. We are a group of people who have come together and, we do have a message, and that message, basically, as generic as it wants to be, is that we would like to see more communication, and we'd like to see more community evolve out of what we're doing. Now, I dont' see that as being a horrible thing or a generic thing because it's not happening. IT's not meaningless at all because it's not fucking happening. And what we're doing is we're getting up there and
Ramsey: What isn't happening?
Darrell: Social values aren't being questioned...
Ramsey: What social values?

OK. At this point the talk degenerates into a discussion of why people came to the show that night. Was it just for the movement? Is it only music bringing everyone together? And Ramsey stresses the point that it's generally accepted to be against racism and sexism, but it's not very common to talk about what you are actually .

Chad: But who among those people acts on that? And doesn't something about it? Which is something we're very adamant about - communication. Not just within our walls, but communication, period. I talk to say, my parents about this stuff. My parents couldn't give a fuck about hardcore. But I think it's important to talk to them about ideals which I feel are important. It needs to grow and get out of "if you're not punk rock you're not my friend."
Jen: So how much do you think what you do and say is preaching to the converted?
Nathan: This is something we've gotten a lot and it's understandable. My answer to that is always, who's converted? Maybe a couple of people...What is the converted?
Ramsey: Well, if you're in the community isn't it assumed that you're converted?
Nathan: No, that's not true. We've played several shows were people start beating each other up and shit, and they're not fucking converted. Converted to what. Not what we're saying. Racism, sexism, homophobia, rape, everything of that nature... they still go on in the scene! If you go to a show, you can see it. Watch how guys converse with other guys and with girls. It's amazing, the difference. It's so unconscious. We just look that over.
Josh: Even we are converted, we can all grow.
Darrell: And we all grow through discussion, that's how you foster new ideas.
Ramsey: What are those new ideas?
Chad: Our ideas aren't particularly new.

Next we enter a discussion of class issues, and what they role they play in the community.

Ramsey: Well, a lot of politics is based on class.
Nathan: There should be people from different classes...
Darrell: What are you trying to say?
Ramsey: Well, you talk about community, and community means a shared interest, a shared goal, as shared vision, and for me personally, I suspect that my interests and goals are very different from the upper class, the ruling class, and what most Americans call themselves, the middle class.
Nathan: Do you have any of our records? Because we do address class issues. We absolutely believe that there is a class based system in America and it's wrong.
Josh:Whether there's people who come from different class who can be part of a revolutionary movement, we feel that they can. But they need to renounce their class based assumptions and beliefs. Just because I came from a middle class white background, and Nathan came from a lower class white background, we can both see that there's a class based system that needs to be destroyed.
Ramsey: I have very little in common with - well, the class system has a lot more to do with than just economics. It has to do with power, and control, access, potential... as well as the obvious wealth, health. etc.
Jen: I wanted to go back to something you said about revolution. What do you think about punk being revolutionary. There have been a couple of very influential people within punk and hardcore who have said they don't think punk is a revolution or that it could ever be. That it only a catalyst.
Nathan: To tell you the truth, I don't think that terms like "punk" or "hardcore" are revolutionary in and of themselves. Titles are not and they won't be. Playing music in a club is not revolutionary.



The discussion goes on to talk about how punk can be used as a catalyst for discussion or hopefully for change. It doesn't come from a singer's monologue on stage, but from the conversations that happen afterward, and as Nathan says, one of their goals as a band is to be approachable and to be able to discuss things with others, and their ultimate goals are to work toward or build a society where where people do not have power over each other and can be able to work to their full potential.

After this, the conversation gets more argumentative and we discuss passificism which Boy Sets Fire supports (you can train people through fear but it's not something they really believe) and Ramsey decries (in America, all of the advancements, like the eight hour day and the existence of unions, have come out of intense violent struggles), and move on to violence and nonviolence and historical background to all of these movements. This discussion is way too long to reproduce, so to find out more about what Boy Sets Fire thinks, you can contact BSF at PO Box 303, Newark, DE 19711. They have a new LP out on Initial Records, called "The Day The Sun Went Out."

Tres Kids

Tres Kids, interviewed by Axel on the Tres Kids winter tour '97

MRR: Please introduce yourselves to our honorable readers.

Doheny: Doheny, Sagittarius, 6-string dog.

Benjy: I'm Benjy and I play the bass, sing, and the snakes.

Jason: I'm Jason and I play the drums, sing, and play the fart harp on recordings.

MRR: Do you have a band motto?

B: "Bird". "2 tears in a bucket, mother fuck it."

J: Don't forget the struggle, don't forget the streets. Skinhead Rebell Bird!

MRR: Give us the confidential info on Bear Records and all the other Hardcore-Punk related projects you are/were involved in.

D: Bear started in 7th grade with our first group, "Straight Youth". It was me, Jay, and Benjy and a lost bro, Mander. Another former group of mine was N.M.E., a solo project. Also in various groups like Pink Panties and Mr. Cat and Oatmeal.

J: We were all in a straight-edge band called Straight Youth in 8th grade and we only practiced on rainy days because we couldn't skate. Also, I am in a sludge-y band called Hands of an Angry God and I was also in the best Hardcore band ever called Pink Panties and I sang my fucking lungs out in that band. I was also in Beluga and Gilsnic in high school, we did Husker Du and Minutemen covers. I also made a video compilation recently.

B: It's old and comes from the Straight Youth days. I was in Beluga, too, with Jay. I'm in or was in "Sod" and Ibut.

MRR: Since all you guys skate, do you consider yourselves skatecore?

B: Sure, I guess 'cause I was also in Drunken Injuns as a boy.

J: Yes, we are fucking skate rock, as a matter of fact we appear in Skate Rock 4 and we skate past Tales of Terror while they are playing.

D: Yeah, I used to have copping on my amp so I could 50/50 it while playing.

MRR: What was the funniest comparison you ever got in a review?

J: Bad Brains and Hanson.

B: Donovan and Cibo Matto.

MRR: What are your guys' musical roots? From what records were you first inspired and what are your current favorites?

J: Minor Threat, D.R.I., C.O.C., J.F.A., Social Distortion, Exploited, G.B.H., Dead Kennedys, Minutemen, Suicidal Tendencies, Circle Jerks, Bad Brains, Y.O.T. My current favorites are Mike Judge and Old Smoke and Kincaid.

B: Circle Jerks, Dead Kennedys, Cryptic Slaughter, Youth of Today, J.F.A., Flipside compilations, Subhumans, Clash. Current: Dropdead, Crimpshrine, Los Crudos, Spazz, Jawbreaker, bunch of others. Crazy fast shit.

D: Early—old metal, old school rap, Doug E. Fresh, Beastie Boys, Motley Crue before '85, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Suicidal Tendencies, D.R.I., Social D. Current—Sepultura, Beastie Boys, Dog-eyed frog, Chemical Bros.

MRR: If H.C.-Punk never existed, what kind of music would you play?

B: I guess I'd be playing alone.

J: Yeah, I guess I'd be playing with myself.

D: Digital hardcore, Industrial, rap

MRR: What's the craziest thing you can imagine someone doing on stage?

J: G.G. Allin killing himself for his last show but he died before it could happen.

D: Cutting off of male genitals and eating them, while shitting in a girl's mouth.

B: Levitate.

MRR: Do your parents know that you're getting naked in front of people? How did/would they react if they knew?

D: I don't think so, my dad might know but I don't think he cares.

J: My mom knows and she's pissed and my dad thinks it's funny.

B: Not fully, they don't/wouldn't like it, but that's because they're oppressed.

MRR: Why did you start getting naked at shows?

D: First time, I got really mad at the last Oatmeal show for a bang, after that it breaks a lot of tension.

B: The energy makes me go crazy and I want to get primal and do the peeny sling.

J: To shock the wimps. To Defy Censorship!!!

MRR: In your quest against prudery, did anyone ever complain about you getting nude on stage?

B: Yes, a lot, but fuck them. some Nazis wanted to get us once.

J: Yeah, a lot of people don't like it and it's always for dumb reasons. Mostly homophobes. A skinhead called us fags and a lot of homophobic kids in Montana left because they thought we were gay. It's stupid. What if we were? Who cares? Some girl tried to punch me in N.Y.

D: Yeah, people think we're gay; guys get scared. In Binghamton, NY, this kid had us play in his basement and his mom came down and saw us naked and flipped out. She told us to "get out" and threatened to call the cops.

MRR: What are your personal opinions on the way American society deals with nudity?

D: It's weird, people get upset because it brings sexual connotations to their mind. To us it's not a sexual thing. It's more of a freedom thing.

J: Well, I think many are hypocrites, that's all I'll say.

B: They are conservative fart-asses cause we all are naked. Everyone jacks.

MRR: If somebody would call you sexist for getting naked on stage, how would you react? *(Of course, your live act has nothing to do with sexism.)*

B: Laugh, cause I'm also a high-paid stripper.

D: Get one of our records and go home and listen to it. It says nothing about sexism.

J: Eat shit, fartface fuckhead. We are not sexist, we are naked. Liberate!!!

MRR: If somebody tried to seduce you, what attitude would totally turn you off?

J: A non-sexy one, a narrow-minded one.

D: One I didn't like?..a girl I could tell was a fake.

B: A scroaty one.

MRR: What message do you try to convey with your lyrics?

B: Freedom and the right to do whatever, so long as you don't hurt others. And to fight corporate-fascists-shit-asses. And to break away from any conventions or beliefs. Bird.

J: Freedom and the right to do whatever. Take their meaning how you want, Buttlips!

D: That's my dog, yeah! Freedom and shit.

MRR: What do you want to express with songs like "read," "weed," and "feed"?

D: Freedom to learn, smoke, and eat.

B: To read, to eat, to smoke pot, to need shit.

J: Concepts! Short, sweet, and to the point, my good man.

MRR: Is it true that "Lois Lane and the Turkey Monster" is based on the adventures of a naked super hero?

B: Yes, exactly.

J: No! It's a thing our old friend said once. It's just a title and has nothing to do with the serious lyrics.

D: No, It's about a paraplegic turkey with one ball.

MRR: Explain the bat-monkey and the long dog.

D: Other things made up around the time of the Bear thing. Bat monkey and Dog-cat were Jay's things.

B: Ask Jay, they look neat.

J: I made them up in jr. high. They represent artistic freedom and getting back to your roots because I have been drawing them the same since I was 13.

MRR: What other tactics—apart from vicious nudity—do you apply to bring about anarchy in the U.S.?

J: We call people names and challenge them

to think about who they are, where they live, etc.

D: Prank calls and go to parties and play pranks like put old cheese in someone's closet and an old banana in the light fixture. Fart?

B: I like to be a little secret pirate doing covert things quietly.

MRR: Everyone knows that Doheny has the most hideous farts. What are the nasty traits of the other two Tres Kids?

B: Heny's poots are very bad. Me and Jay's feet smell. Doheny smells his hands, too.

J: Well, I drink my own pee pee and my breath smells like shit. Bad boogers, too.

MRR: How do you feel if somebody tells you "if you're not straight edge now, you never been?"

D: That's retarded! I used to be straight-edge and knew a lot about it.

J: I get fucking pissed. I was railed to the X for, like, 7 years, and it was real part of my life that you can't deny happened. I know more than Scott Beacher ever will. Love you, Scott!

B: I don't give 2 shits. If you're straight edge and a discriminator a priori, then you suck just like any Nazi. Everyone should be able to be what they want to be, straight edge or otherwise, but don't think you're God, and others unlike you suck.

MRR: What's your favorite fantasy for the turn of the century?

J: The aliens will expose themselves and everyone will lose faith in their religions and question society.

D: We will all turn into dogs and sniff each other's tails.

all time from Georgia?

J: Final Offering. I saw them in 8th grade with C.O.C. That was my first punk show. Wow! N.M.E. and Neon Christ were awesome!

D: Swing Riot, Otis Redding.

B: Georgia Satellites, ibut, East Orange.

MRR: What are your further plans with the Tres Kids?

B: Make more records, tour, maybe move somewhere else.

J: Make records, tour, etc.

D: Make more records, form a union that can support us and help us help others.

MRR: Final comments, good advice, etc., and your address.

B: "The longer you take, the more I get snaked." See ya, G dog. "Don't go on a diet, be a pirate."

D: To all you raw dawg slaw hogs, we're taking the top like leaders in leap frog, and, oh yeah, fried chicken with cornbread.

J: We have a new 7" out, donkey dicks! Take care and fight the good fight cause we are proud of who we are, what we say, and what we do. We're standing fucking hard, Ninjas! Write Tres Kids, 780 East Campus Road, Athens, GA 30605.

B: The beast, this computer, is going to get real hungry by then and eat all the shit upon the earth.

MRR: What do you see yourselves doing 20 years from now?

D: Playing music and producing music. I also have high aspirations of being world Slaw Dawg champion.

J: I think we will be real rich from Tres Kids and we will retire and reap the benefits of our hardcore labors.

B: Living in the woods or in a cave. I don't like jobs, but food's OK. I may have a gold hand.

MRR: Name the top 3 reasons why you chose Athens, GA as the location of your headquarters.

J: Started school and many of our friends lived here.

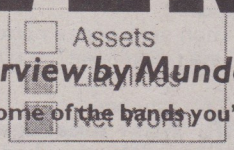
B: Friends, school, and just a random pick.

D: I wanted to fuck Michael Stipe.

MRR: What are your favorite bands of

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Monthly Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth



Interview with Ian and Saul of Chapter 11 Records and The Randumbs. Interview by Mundo.

MRR: Where are you from originally?
Ian: I was born in Portland. Then I lived in San Francisco up until Junior High and then I moved here for high school.
MRR: To Sonoma?
Ian: Yeah.
MRR: When was that?
Ian: 1980.
MRR: So you've been in Sonoma since 1980.
Ian: Yeah, pretty much. I left in '88 or '89 and moved to Santa Barbara for a year then I came back to Sonoma for another year or two then I moved to Santa Rosa for a year or two and then came back. I 've been here for three years since.
MRR: What did you move to Santa Barbara for?
Ian: School. (laughter) Well, sort of. That didn't work out too good. I, uh, didn't really go. I was enrolled, but too much beer. Lots of beer.
MRR: That happens to a lot of folks down there.
Ian: Yeah it's a wreck. So I hung out there and got drunk for about a year and then came home. Lost my ride because my p's were sponsoring it. So I said "whoops, fucked up, I'm coming home".
MRR: So what did you do when you came back?
Ian: Went back to work. The job since before I left.
MRR: Where's that?
Ian: At the Sonoma Mission Inn Hotel.
MRR: What do you do there?
Ian: I'm a mechanic. I fix things. I fix broken things. Lots of broken things.
MRR: Right on.
Ian: I fix whatever. Air conditioners, refrigerators, lights, toilets, doors. Whatever. Anything that breaks.
MRR: So you're like a "handyman."
Ian: "Handyman," that's it, "handyman." "Handyman" with a big plumber's crack. (laughter)
MRR: Cool.
Ian: That's it.
MRR: So why and when did you get into this punk rock thing?
Ian: I'd say about '82. A friend gave me a Toxic Reasons tape and I was listening to that and then there you go, I just kept getting into it. There wasn't that many punks here in Sonoma back then. Maybe ten.
MRR: Ten total?
Ian: Yeah. It was all hicks. Cowboys, big hats, big trucks and ten punks. Maybe fifteen. I hooked up with them and they showed me how to do drugs and drink. (laughter) Started going to shows in the city and just stuck with it. Kept going. Kept dealing with it.
MRR: Did you get picked on a lot up here?
Ian: Ooh god yes! Daily! You'd get your ass kicked just walking down the halls. I was a puny kid then. I was small, skinny and I would just get weeded all the time. But...
MRR: What can you do?
Ian: Run! (laughter) Lot of running.
MRR: Should have joined the track team.
Ian: Maybe, maybe. You know half the people that used to beat me up are now all chummy. You see them and they're all "hey,what's up? hey. How ya doin' ?" They're still here. Everybody's still here.
MRR: Nobody escapes Sonoma?
Ian: No one leaves its clutches. It's cursed.(laughter)
MRR: What's it like now.
Ian: Horrible. I mean it's nice, I wouldn't live anywhere else. Looks great. The weather is great. It's quiet. There's no crime but there's nothing to do. After eight or nine forget about it.
MRR: Rent a movie?
Ian: Rent a movie. Drink some beer. You usually just sit around with your buddies drinking beer.
MRR: What about the punk scene? Is there one?
Ian: Yeah, actually. Lately in the last year it's picked up. There's some good bands. There's like four bands. The Bodies, The 22's, The Wobblies. There used to be a band called Dick Bird and the Tweeters playing but they're dead. (laughter) Weird name but they kicked ass! They were good. So there's a bunch of bands around, playing shows and what not. It's cool.
MRR: You're in a band right?
Ian: Yeah, The Randumbs. We've been playing for awhile.
MRR: You guys are like the old men of the Sonoma scene?
Ian: Yeah I think we've been around the longest and we are the oldest, definitely. But there's been good bands from here for forever. Double Cross was from here back in the eighties and they were great. They played good punk rock. It's good. I don't know what it is but the bands that come from here play straight punk. Fast, screamy punk. There isn't any of that pop stuff. Nobody really plays it.
MRR: Cool. So you also do a record label. Tell us a bit about that.
Ian: Well, Ben Coleman started it, actually. When we first started out in The Randumbs nobody would put out our record so Ben started Cool Skin Records and I started working with him there and we put out about three seven inches in about three years. Yeah, we were pretty slow. When we were getting ready to do the second Randumbs seven inch and he had had his second kid and was married and just kind of didn't have the time or the money. I'm not sure what it was. It just slowed down so I asked him if he wanted to get out and I would start running it. He said yeah, da da da and then I pulled in Sal from the Randumbs and Noah and we changed the name to Chapter 11 and started over. We still carry the Cool Skin stuff and just changed the name and went for it.
MRR: What was your first actual release as Chapter 11?
Ian: Chapter 11? The Randumbs "Hell Bent For Rehab" seven inch.
MRR: How many releases have you done since then?
Ian: Whew! Ten? Let's see.... eight. Yeah. Eight to date and we got three more in the works right now.
MRR: What are some of the bands you've put out? Is there a certain sound you shot for?
Ian: We're gearing towards a certain sound right now but at first we started out doing a variety trying to get all the angles. Garage, punk. Uhmm, kinda what ever. Street punk,oi sorta sound, psychobilly, but mainly we've stuck with the straight early 80's, California sound. I'd say that's the majority of what we've done.
MRR: What are some of the bands you've worked with?
Ian: Um. Fat, Drunk and Stupid, The Randumbs, obviously, The Workin' Stiffs, Tiger Army, One Man Army, Fetish, Drop Kick Murphys, The Undefeated, that's about it.
MRR: What are some bands that you're going to put out in the future?
Ian: The Ducky Boys from Boston. We're doing a seven inch with them and we're doing a split seven inch with Strike Three from San Francisco and Fat Drunk and Stupid, a band from Santa Rosa that we just picked up called Binge. We're doing their seven inch and then hopefully, cross my fingers, by the end of the year (1997) we'll have a split twelve inch, The Randumbs and The Bodies. That will be our first full length release.
MRR: So everything you've done until now has been seven inches?
Ian: Yeah.
MRR: Is there a reason for that?
Ian: Money. (laughter) Don't have any money. It's expensive, you know! I don't have anybody, except for the guys involved, Sal and Noah and a buddy of ours who lives in Japan named Mark. We all just pony up what we can, when we can and put out whatever we can. (laughter) It mostly started form friends who have bands you know. They wanted their record out and we said ok.
MRR: How do you find bands these days? Demo tapes? Word of mouth?
Ian: Originally, like I said it was just friends who had bands but now we're getting demo tapes. Lots of demo tapes in the mail. Also lots of bands we play with a lot. We just become friends from playing shows. I think there's been no bands that we've done that have sent demos up to this point and we've gotten hundreds. It's not that I don't want to do them because I don't know them. It's just that I've gotten one good tape in the mail. (laughter) Actually, I'm sorry, Binge came through the mail and we're going to do their's. I got a good one from The Disappointments and we were going to do that but a friend of mine swiped 'em. (laughter)
MRR: Any hobbies besides the label and the band? Skating? Fishing?
Ian: You know I haven't skated in a long time. I'd like to. Ever since I moved from Santa Rosa. I used to live right next to the skate park and then I moved here. They're building a park right down the block so I'm sure I'll get to do some turns there. I haven't fished in a long time. I like fishing but I don't have much time for anything really.
MRR: What about putting on shows?
Ian: I used to before I started playing in The Randumbs. I used to put on shows at The Phoenix Theater. I had a few bands that I would book shows for. I'd do flyers or art work for t-shirts for bands. Pretty much whatever I could do to be involved.
MRR: Is the Randumbs your first band?
Ian: Yeah. I'd never played before then. They asked me to play so I said ok. They knew I didn't know how.
MRR: Whatever. Punk rock.
Ian: Yeah, it's punk, who gives a shit. It's not meant to be anything too special, just kind of fun.
MRR: I heard you're opening a record store. Tell us about that.
Ian: Well it's Sal, once again Sal and I, and a friend of ours named John from Sonoma. He already has

the store and it's like sports memorabilia and collectible shit. Like Jordan signed basketballs and baseball cards and crap like that. He's already got the store and he asked us if we wanted to take half of it and put records in it and what not. At first we were going to just put up a stand of Chapter 11 stuff and just run it out of there but then we got to talking and what not and we decided to make it skateboard shop slash record shop because you can't get 'em here in Sonoma.

MRR: Records?

Ian: Records or skateboards.

MRR: Wow! So this is going to be Sonoma's first.

Ian: Well, there's been skate shop's in the past and there's been, actually, no, there hasn't been, no, there was a record store but it was really cheesy! So I've been calling around to other labels and distributors and we're going to carry uhhh.... punk rock records from everywhere now.

MRR: Cool.

Ian: Yeah. It should be pretty neat. We're pretty stoked on it.

MRR: When do the doors open?

Ian: That'll open October second (1997). Hopefully we'll be open for four months before the skate park opens and we're really close to that.

MRR: That's kinda convenient.

Ian: Yeah. We're not really putting anything out, we're just filling up a space with stuff. Hopefully it will work because you've got to go twenty-five miles to get a good record. We're not going to carry any of that mainstream what not. It's just going to be stuff that's hard to find. Stuff that you'd normally have to mailorder to get, cheap.

MRR: Not looking to make a million bucks or anything?

Ian: No. Not at all. That was never an issue even with the label, to make money. Just doing it for fun mostly.

MRR: What exactly does each person do at the label?

Ian: Noah takes care of all the printing of the covers. He's a printer by trade, so he takes care of all that. Catalogs, stickers, shit like that except for t-shirts. My little brother does the t-shirts. Sal and I take care of the day-to-day crap like which bands we want to do next, what we should do with money that's come in. Should we put it into the computer or more advertising and what direction, we pretty much sit down and discuss which way we want to go with the resources we have. I take care of all the accounting and the books.

MRR: Do you have a web site?

Ian: We do, uhm I did that. It looks home done. (laughter). Home made. I'm not a wiz at it yet. I went gangbusters with it right at front. I haven't done many updates lately but I do occasionally, I'll throw in something new. It's time consuming working on that and trying to keep it updated all the time. You can go to the site and see which records are still available and what the bands are doing and where they're from. I try to put up a link for every band so there's a place with photos and a contact of how to reach the bands and what they've done on other labels, where they're touring and that general shit that people want to know.

MRR: Right on.

Ian: Yeah, it's cool.

MRR: It sounds as if everything you've done has been through you knowing someone that knows how to do something and then there's someone else over here and you pull everybody together.

Ian: Pretty much. I 've been with it for so long. You know meeting people up and down the coast and now back east and all over the place. You get to meet a lot of people that have an 'in' somewhere and can get you stuff. So you do something and it's like, "hey I'll do this and you do that" and whatever. You just trade all kinds of crap and pretty soon you got something going.

MRR: Cool.

Ian: Yeah, it 's all right. I think if people were hording all their information or whatever, it (the label) wouldn't have come to where it is. If I didn't have help form all the bands and the smaller labels and people with software we would have been dead a long time ago.

MRR: What's the worst thing that's happened with the label so far? Any disasters?

Ian: Uuuh? There's another label out there called Chapter 11. I just found that out a couple of weeks ago. I don't know where the are or how to get a hold of them. The only thing I saw was a review when I was back east. I saw a little fanzine with a review of a shitty band that was on Chapter 11 Records. There wasn't an address so? Somebody saw a flyer in San Francisco with a flyer for some crazy hip-hop dj thing that was happening on Chapter 11 Records. I'm kind of nervous about that one because we got a lot of time and money into this. If you're out there, give me a call. I'm a nice guy.

MRR: How much time do you put into this in the average week?

Ian: Uhmm, I'd say close to twenty or thirty hours.

MRR:. That's on top of working full time?

Ian: Yeah, I work ten hours a day four days a week at my regular job and then come home and I usually put in four hours Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Then on Thursday I work all day. It's a lot of time.

MRR: How did you pick up distributors?

Ian: That's hard. Because we're so small and unknown and we only do seven inches. A lot of

distributors don't even get back to me. I've sent out boxes of records. I've sent records everywhere and I don't hear anything. It gets a little frustrating. So I got a couple mailorder distros and a couple of decent little distros. They're consistent and they buy stuff so I stick with them and every release I'll throw out a couple more to whoever to see if they'll bite.

MRR: Do you do direct mailorder?

Ian: Oh yeah! I'd say that's 70% of our game.

MRR: Really?

Ian: Yeah, at least. I'd say there's about fifty kids out there that order every single thing. It's good. It helps a lot. If it wasn't for those people that send in a measly three fifty for that one record, I get a hundred of those and it adds up. There you go. If it wasn't for them, phew, we'd be crushed.

MRR: Do you pay for the bands to record?

Ian: I can't. I'd like to and hopefully we'll get into a situation where we can, but as of now the band records on their own and they send us the tape. I send it out to get pressed and when it's done and we do the covers. When everything is done I send the band, depending on the press, but generally 20%. I'll do five hundred, that's usually what we do, five hundred records and I'll give them a hundred and keep the rest. If we repress it I'll call the band and ask them what do you want to do? Do you want another hundred or do you want cash? So far everybody says give me some more records. No contracts. There's none of that. A handshake.

MRR: That seals the deal?

Ian: Yeah, I offer the bands the names and numbers of all the bands we've worked with so they can call them up and ask them how we work. They can call me at anytime and ask "how's the record doing? How many do you have left?" I'll tell them how many are here, how many went out mailorder, to distros and what record stores. That's available to anyone that calls.

MRR: Where do you send the records to get pressed?

Ian: United. Quick turn around, nice people and decent prices. I've never had a problem with anything they've sent me. Oh, I take that back. One time they sent me 200 records by some band called Beat Happening. (laughter) Half Fat, Drunk and Stupid and Half Beat Happening . (laughter)

MRR: That wasn't too happenin'! (laughter)

Ian: Nooo, that wasn't happenin'. So they got half of my Fat, Drunk and Stupid records.

MRR: I'm sure they loved them. (laughter)

Ian: Yeah, but United gave us credit on that.

(At this point Sal joined us)

MRR: How did you meet Ian?

Sal: Uh, I've known him for a while now. Shit, we used to live next to each other in these seedy old apartments by his work. I knew him before that and we just decided that nobody would put out our (The Randumbs) record so we did it ourselves. We needed a name and decided on Chapter 11.

MRR: You guys are D.I.Y. all the way?

Sal: Pretty much. We haven't made a cent yet. (laughter)

MRR: I saw the printout of your earnings. (laughter)

Sal: Everything we make on records turns around and makes another record. We just like to make records. I used to collect the mail until Ian got a key. He started rushing down and getting the demos before I did. Now he pawns off the demos he doesn't like to me and he keeps the good ones. (laughter)

MRR: You end up with all the college rock bands.

Sal: Yeah, I get all those ones. I got Shit Box too. I guess there's another Chapter 11 out there somewhere and we're gonna fight them. (laughter)

Ian: We are?

Sal: Yeah!

MRR: Are you from Sonoma as well?

Sal: I was born in L.A. and moved up here seventeen years ago.

MRR: So you both graduated from Sonoma High?

Ian: No.

Sal: Ian missed that boat. (laughter) I barely made it.

Ian: I had a long summer my senior year.

MRR: What can you do? Some people, school just ain't their thing.

Sal: He's prospering now in this multi-billion dollar corporation here. "Queso Grande" is what we call him. (laughter)

Ian: That's me!

MRR: Sal, how did you get into punk?

Sal: My brother was into all that shit. I got his hand-me down shirts that didn't fit so I started wearing like old Circle Jerks shirts and pretty soon I was like, "I'd better start listening to these bands before I start wearing this stuff," (laughter) because "real" punkers were staring at me like, "what the hell's this guy doing in that shirt?" (laughter)

MRR: What do you do for a living, Sal?

Sal: I'm a roofer. Grunt roofer. Getting skin cancer. In fact, today I was doing side jobs ripping off old people cleaning their gutters. (laughter) To make records! You hear that! Busting my ass for the kids! (laughter)

Ian: All for the kids.

MRR: You're in on the store, right?

Sal: Yeah, I get to build the record shelves.

MRR: Oh! Good for you.

Sal: No. I get to do more than that. I get to point my finger and say "Ian, do this."

MRR: So you'll be "El Queso Grande de la Tienda".

Sal: Yeah, of the store. We haven't figured a name out yet. Basically it will be a place where we get to listen to records without getting yelled at by our old ladies.

Ian: Mine doesn't yell.

Sal: Mine does.

MRR: Where are you looking to take this?

Sal: Eventually we want to do a full length but that's down the road.

Ian: Then we're going to crush Sony.

Sal: Yeah, Sony's going down!

MRR: Is that a call to arms?

Both: Sure.

MRR: Look out, Geffen.

Sal: Oh, Geffen will be in the poor house soon.

Ian: Pushing a shopping cart, crying...

Sal: Just mumbling stuff about Chapter 11. "Those guys crushed me! What happened?". (laughter) An industry takeover.

Ian: Hostile.

Sal: Hostile takeover.

Ian: That's the goal. A music monopoly. By the year 2005 there'll be one label.

MRR: Chapter 11?

Both: Yep.

Sal: Burn all cds including our own. (laughter)

Ian: You gotta have a goal.

MRR: Show no mercy.

Sal: Like Slayer.

Ian: They have no mercy, so why should we? (laughter)

Chapter 11 Records/Randumbs
PO Box 132, Sonoma, CA 95476

Garage RATS

I remember the first time I saw the Garage Rats play. I felt like it was 1976, and I was watching the Buzzcocks, watching the Sex Pistols. What the Garage Rats lacked in experience and ability they more than made up in energy and anarchy. Over the next year or so I watched the Garage Rats grow, improving their skills and songs. Even though they are young (the oldest is 17), they have authenticity to their sound. The singer, fifteen year-old Stephen, sounds like he has been smoking and drinking since birth. The Garage Rats have the look, sound and attitude that brought us all to punk in the first place. Not an "Old School" nostalgia band, just some good music. Remember how fun it was just getting all geared up?? Go paint your leather!! The Garage Rats are Justin: Bass, Derrick: Drums, Jarrod: Guitar, Stefan: Vocals.

Interview by Generic.

MRR: What was it that inspired you to form a band?
Stephan: Punk Rock music, Satan, and the local super group Dead End Kids.
Jarrod: I didn't form it, Stefan did. But I joined because I figured it would be fun and I love playing music.
Derrick: I was in a band called Epstein's Mother and I wanted to do something different, I wanted to play the guitar, I wanted to go crazy on stage.. you know, kick some ass. It didn't happen, I ended up playing drums in the Garage Rats... I don't mean it to sound bad, it's really good.
Justin: I don't know... Stefan wanted to start a band real bad, so I said I'd play drums. When I found I couldn't hold a beat, I said I'd play bass. I had guitar class with Jarrod and Derrick, I showed them the flyer looking for a guitarist and drummer, and they said they wanted to join.
MRR: What is the most fucked up thing that happened around, or because of the band?
Derrick, Jarrod, Justin, Stephan: EVERYONE THINKS WE'RE A GANG!!
MRR: You guys are all still in high school, how is for you at Small Town, Backwards, Redneck High? And what do they think of you?
Jarrod: I go to a different school than the rest. My school is a pretty stereotypical prep school. I was the first to have mohawk at the school.
Stephan: It used to suck, but now it seems like the rednecks are the minority, most of 'em graduated, dropped out, or haven't realized that school started yet. They think we want to have butt sex with them. Little do they know, that's not all I want to do.
Justin: I don't talk to anyone, so I don't have much of a problem. (I did throw a trash can on somebody!)
Derrick: Rednecks suck cock, they fuck with us for no reason.. the homeboys are like that, too. We'll show them wuz up when I bring my AK to school.
MRR: I heard something about a fight Stefan got into with some jocks or the KKK, tell me about it.
Stephan: Yeah, some big, tough redneck came up to me and slapped me in the head, so I punched him in the face and we started tumbling around, then I kicked him in the side and broke his rib, but he still beat the crap out of me.
Derrick: These jocks jumped him, he broke some KKK ribs, he da man!
Jarrod: they all think they are bad ass and tried to start shit with him because he is "different." They just fear the unknown. Stefan kicked the redneck's ass.
Justin: When I saw the fight, I jumped off the bus and hit a redneck with a tree limb.
MRR: It seems like you are always being harassed. What's living in Lake County, Florida all about?
Derrick: It's about music, drinkin', smokin', drinkin', and then there's girls
Stephan: Fat lazy cops, the kind that'll take ya out back, have their way with you, then shoot ya.
Justin: It's about getting the crap burnt out of you by the sun.
Jarrod: Being harassed.
MRR: What's up with the local music scene?
Stephan: It's great, everybody's friendly with each other. We have fun.
Jarrod: It's pretty good. It is more than most people would expect, but it has died down now for some reason, that kinda sucks.
Justin: I think it's cool. I've been to New York, and I think the scene sucks up there, at least the punk scene. There's a lot of this new type of hardcore up there that sounds like death metal.
Derrick: I personally only like bands in our scene: D.E.K., S.G., and F.O. I hate Chris Paulk though. And of course I like my band.
MRR: What can we hope to see from the Garage Rats in terms of releases?
Stephan: We play it by ear.
Justin: I want some good shirts and maybe a CD in the future, but probably some more seven inches.
Derrick: 2 C.D.'s! Yeah maybe a clothing line and maybe some designer shoes.
Jarrod: We have 7" coming in November and hopefully we can do a lot more in the future.
MRR: Leaving it up to you, where do you see the Garage Rats in three years?
Stephan: Jail.
Derrick: I know I'll be fat, drunk, and naked, sitting in a chair on my front lawn, yelling at my neighbors.
Jarrod: At an all night binge/keg party, dancing in our undies, singing Clash songs.
Justin: On MTV! No just kidding, MTV sucks, I never watch it (and that's the truth)!
MRR: I hear stories of Stefan's outrageous behavior on stage, I've only witnessed a few. Tell me what goes on on stage, and has it brought any negative reactions?
Jarrod: He just does what he feels like doing. If he wants to play his underwear or in a dress, he does. People like it and some come just to see it.
Stephan: My stage antics have been done a million times before, but I don't care... I'm having fun. People say it's stupid but whenever we're playing I don't see them doing backups or getting close to my person.
Justin: It's O.K., as long as he doesn't do anything to me!
Derrick: He's a perfect gentleman.
MRR: What are some of the best experiences you've had being in a band?
Stephan: Groupies, heroin, and hairspray.
Derrick: The time we all got drunk as fuck and trashed Chad's house. Broke windows, TVs, beds, walls... fucked up the carpet and almost got arrested.
Jarrod: Creating a good time for everyone at shows and just becoming really good friends over the past year and a half
Justin: The best time I had was at the Tallahassee show. It was just fun to see all these kids freaking out over us.. and we got a crap load of money for playing there.
MRR: Briefly and individually tell me something that is of interest to you.
Stephan: Alcohol, pornography, violence, and shiny things.
Jarrod: Playing good music and one-night stands with hot girls.
Derrick: I like playing with dolls and eating cereal from a cup.
Justin: Playing Quake 24/7, yeah boy!! I also like to make websites. W I never leave my room.

Contact the Garage Rats at: 38909 Rolling Acres Rd., Lady Lake, FL 32159 E-Mail at: garage_rats@hotmail.com, or visit the website at: http://www.iag.net/~jmeisse

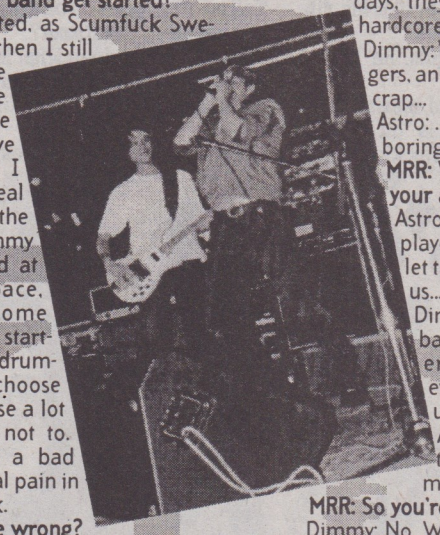
Idyls from Sweden are: Dimmy Jean: lead vocals, Astro Gilberto: guitar and backing vocals, Ringo Fire: drums, Chris Mono: bass. This interview was conducted (and somewhat shortened) by me, T-Bone Kennedy (editor of the Bad Talker In Texas fanzine). Watch for their new EP "Sonic Boing" out this winter.

MRR: I know what instruments you play, but who writes the songs?

Astro: I make all the music. Dimmy comes up with the lyrics and sings them whichever way he likes. Chris used to be in a psychband, so I tell him what to do. And Ringo...he's Ringo.

MRR: When did the band get started?

Astro: We got started, as Scumfuck Sweden, in '94. Back then I still had a '60s garage band with some other guys, but we lost track of what we were doing. And I wanted to play real punk rock again. At the time me and Dimmy was fiddlin' around at our rehearsal space, came up with some songs that way and started looking for a drummer. We finally choose Ringo, partly because a lot of people told us not to. They said he was a bad drummer, and a real pain in the ass when drunk.



MRR: And they were wrong?

Astro: Yes and no. He practiced with us and was perfect for the job, but afterwards we went out drinking...and he turned schizoid and tried to kill us.

MRR: Is that why you waited so long to get a bass player?

Dimmy: Yep, but we made a few shows as a three piece band. Some people thought that was stupid enough to pass for cool, so we pissed them off by getting a bass player. I guess they wanted us to be the local freak-band.

MRR: Well, a band called Scumfuck Sweden COULD be a GG Allin tribute-band...

Astro: We were never billed as Scumfuck. We switched to Idyls long before our first gig, partly because of the Allin-suggestion of the name. It was a misnomer. We don't eat shit: we don't suck dick: we rock. It's still a good name, we just didn't feel like living up to THAT kind of shit.

Dimmy: We'd rather be stupid and embarrass ourselves - and for some people that's even more frightening than the GG-routine. We're an aggressive live band, all right, but in a more moronic and non-calculated way.

MRR: So what kind of punk rock DO you play, then?

Dimmy: Most Swedish punk bands seems to be Clash/Ramones fans while we are more into the Damned and the Germs. They like Bad Religion, we like Jerry's Kids.

Astro: We listen a lot to rockabilly, '60s punk and bands like the Motards, the Spider Babies, the Drags...

Dimmy: The Spaceshits.

MRR: Many gigs?

Astro: No. We play on request, but there ain't no demand...

MRR: Played with any well-known bands?

Astro: Samiam, and that was because another local band was double-booked. You know, we'd go through any kind of shit to get a gig.

Dimmy: Yeah, we're the whores of Sweden. We even opened for Marky Ramone once.

MRR: What's the usual response on an Idyls gig?

Dimmy: The most typical response is that people leave the building.

Astro: There's usually three or four people raving in front of the band, wrestling with Dimmy, and everyone else keep a safety distance

MRR: Where do you get the inspiration for your live shows?

Dimmy: From all the bad and stupid touring acts coming to Linköping. It's all choreography and no action. Look at any old live shots from the '50s or the late '70s and you'll see the difference.

Astro: Punk bands look like the Shadows nowadays, they don't go ape. And that goes for hardcore too.

Dimmy: We played a show with Los Assdraggers, and they were the opposite of all that crap...

Astro: ...and people here thought it was boring and stupid

MRR: Why do you throw bananas at your audience?

Astro: It happened just once. We played the "Ape Agent" song and let the good people swing with us...

Dimmy: We got every damn banana back...apeshit everywhere. Some guy even threw a lobster at us.

Astro: We don't play that song anymore. Too messy.

MRR: So you're a "fun band"?

Dimmy: No. We're a rockenroll band.

Astro: We're on a goddamn mission!

Dimmy: People are lead to believe that you can't take it seriously and have fun at the same time.To those guys we're a "concept band".

Astro: Pop music is serious indeed.

MRR: How did the EP come up?

Dimmy: Well, we got a letter from Mr Ken Rock (Ken Rock Records) and thought he was kiddin' us. I mean, we didn't play outside our hometown and we never sent him a demo or anything. He was just crazy enough to know about us anyway.

Astro: Yeah, Ken Rock seems to be the only label in Sweden interested in this kind of shit.

MRR: I've heard there was some trouble pressing the record...

Astro: Well, Mr Ken Rock sent it to a pressing plant in the Czech Republic, and they really screwed things up: wrong sleeve color, too low mastering...and they even "improved" our art work!

Dimmy: There's about 50 of the misprinted covers distributed - the pink ones - and they look DIY all right...

MRR: And you made the recordings at your rehearsal space?

Astro: Yeah, one channel, no overdubs. No bass player

MRR: So you're one of those lo-fi garage fundamentalists?

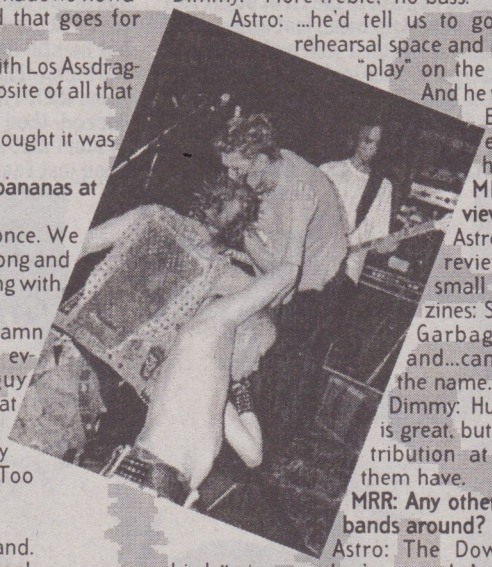
Astro: No, it's just that the so-called "bad" sound is good: it's easier to listen to "bad" sound than the "good" sound you hear everywhere. And bands with "good" production usually have bad songs.

Dimmy: Yeah, and we make good songs...

Astro: Why spend 20 hours in the studio and paying a zillion bucks for something that no-one is satisfied with six months later? If we told a "real" producer what kind of sound we wanted...

Dimmy: "More treble, no bass!"

Astro: ...he'd tell us to go back to our rehearsal space and press "rec" and "play" on the tape recorder. And he would be right. But it would be easier doing it his way.



MRR: Any reviews?

Astro: We've been reviewed in there small Swedish fanzines: Savage, Human Garbage Disposal and...can't remember the name.

Dimmy: Human Garbage is great, but it's got no distribution at all. None of them have.

MRR: Any other garage punk bands around?

Astro: The Downbeats from Linköping - they're great! And Henry Fiats Open Sore from Stockholm, but they're not exactly garage... Beware of everything Swedish that's called "garage", too much shit going on that's not music: cars, surfboards...collector's stuff.

Dimmy: Nice therapy. Me want rockenroll.

Astro: And there's an oi/punk-band from Linköping called Hoist-A-Few.

Dimmy: They've got a CD out.

Astro: And I'm sure you'd find a lot of great bands on the Swedish countryside, but you have to give head in Stockholm to be noticed. It was like that on the '80s garage scene too: no one cared about great bands like the Hi-jackers.

Dimmy: But it's no real disadvantage living in Linköping. We pretty much do what we like and no one tells us what's good or bad.

Astro: We set our own standards. We make our own mistakes.

Dimmy: And we don't have to care about crap bands in Stockholm.

Astro: They charge something like 5000 bucks for a show.

Dimmy: Respect the rock!

MRR: So what's happening right now?

Dimmy: Nothing. Ringo's moving to France and Chris lives in Stockholm.

Dimmy: And I've got an infant child to take care of... but that's part of the plan: garage rockers must multiply to save the future of rockenroll. We'll be back!

Astro: But we made some recordings - IN STUDIO! - with Ringo and Chris still in the band.

MRR: What does "Idyls" refer to?

Dimmy: It's from an old Richmal Crompton book about eight year old Bill, who learns in Sunday school that it's bad worshiping idols. So he makes this sign that says: "DOWN WITH IDYLS!".

Astro: Or maybe from that Shonen Knife-song that goes: "He's my hero, he's my Idyl..." We don't know for sure.

Write to Idyls: Idyls, c/o J. Karlsson, Snickaregatan 11, 582 20 Linköping, S- Sweden, E-mail: jonas@tema.liu.se

SPAT & THE GUTTERSNIPES

Spat and the Guttersnipes is Spat on Vox, Larry Dammit on Bass, Kelly on guitar, and Jeremy on Drums. Leesburg, Florida serves as home for the four, who have been playing together for about six months. Spat has quickly become one of the local favorites. Their music reminds me more of Great Britain, 1981, than it does Florida, 1997. That is not to say that their music is "Retro", their music is fun and means a lot now! Interview by Generic.

MRR: Why did you decide to play music together?

S: We wanted to contribute to our scene I think, and it's fun.

J: I like to play.

L: We had no other choice! We got stuck with each other. We kicked Kelly's ass out but we won' go to deep into that.

MRR: What are you looking for when you play live, what constitutes a good show??

S: A big crowd, good scene, and lots 'o beer.

J: Crowd going crazy every song, female stripping is a plus.

L: It's only a good show if Stefan (Garage Rats) gets naked. If he's not, it just doesn't seem worth it.

MRR: Tell me about you worst gig.

S: I think that was the Venice show. I was sick, and we drove 3 hours.

J: Me too, 3 hours to have no crowd response.

L: I think it was the Venice show also. There was no promotion for the show and the crowd was just sitting there like corpses. It was hot as well. Some stupid jock was moshing during Naked Aggression and hit Jason (Jeremy's brother) in the nose. Blood was pouring out. Why don't those assholes stick to their Korn concerts.

MRR: What inspires you to write a song??

S: Boredom.

J: My bird, Tobi

L: My penis. I get all sentimental about that shit. I pretty much write all the music and Spat writes all the lyrics. Kelly didn't write many songs. That lazy fucker. At least Jeremy just sits there and looks pretty. He also makes a mean Key Lime Pie. Kelly didn't do shit!! Now he's in some Metal Band. He likes to talk shit too.

MRR: Tell me something really embarrassing about each other.

S: Larry tripped over a dog cage and about killed himself when we were drunk.

J: Pat tried showing off to Stuart and fell with a bottle in his hand and cut himself (when we were drunk)

L: Jeremy used to feather his hair when we were younger. We don't have many about each other but we have plenty about the Garage Rats, those are sorta top secret though!

MRR: What's the scene like in Leesburg?

S: It's perfectly great.

J: There's a good number of punks here in Hooterville.

L: It's great. The kids are cool and the Gator Pub is awesome, thanks to Eddy who always lets us play there. He's a great guy. If it wasn't for Generic and Eddy we'd have nowhere to go and no scene. We owe them a lot. Oh yeah, fuck Dewey at Max-One records, he's a fucking asshole who buys into any trend that comes along. If it ain't hip, he won't sell it!

MRR: What is the hardest part of living in a small town?

S: Rednecks!!

J: No places to drag race my '85 Plymouth Reliant.

L: All those goddamn Punk Rockers! Always causing chaos and disorder. They don't respect their elders either!!

MRR: What was the funniest thing that happened to you while playing live?

S: Not much, once I forgot the lyrics, but that's it.

J: Stefan gave me a wedgie at the beginning of our set and we played all our songs non-stop. I felt funny.

L: Once we were saving up to buy Jeremy a leather jacket for his birthday. Anyways we all put money in except for Kelly. We knew he had $ and lots of it. Stefan ran up to him while he was playing and grabbed the money out of his wallet. Kelly had a stupid look on his face, but then again he always does. Then again there are those countless number of times when drunk rednecks come up while we're playing. They're in their 40's or 50's and keep screaming into the mic. They say shit like "Free Bird!" or "Play some Ted Nugent! Cat scratch Fever!" I think it was Jeremy's dad who said it, though.

MRR: Where do you want Spat and the Guttersnipes to be in two years?

S: Alive playing shows & drinking more beer.

J: In a trailer home, fat & drunken up.

L: Hell, baby!!

MRR: Do you have any plans for any releases or tours?

S: Yea!

J: We'd like to kick off our European tour.

L: Yeah, we're opening for U2. It's going to be awesome. We also plan on putting out a split with the Garage Rats in the near future and hopefully some other stuff. Then, of course, we all have our solo careers to think about.

MRR: How was your experience in the recording studio?

S: First time was hard & went slow, then it was just dandy!

J: Generic forgot to press 1 fuckin' button so I had to set up for 30 minutes, I was too tired to do anything. After that it was fine (except for hemmoroidal flare-up).

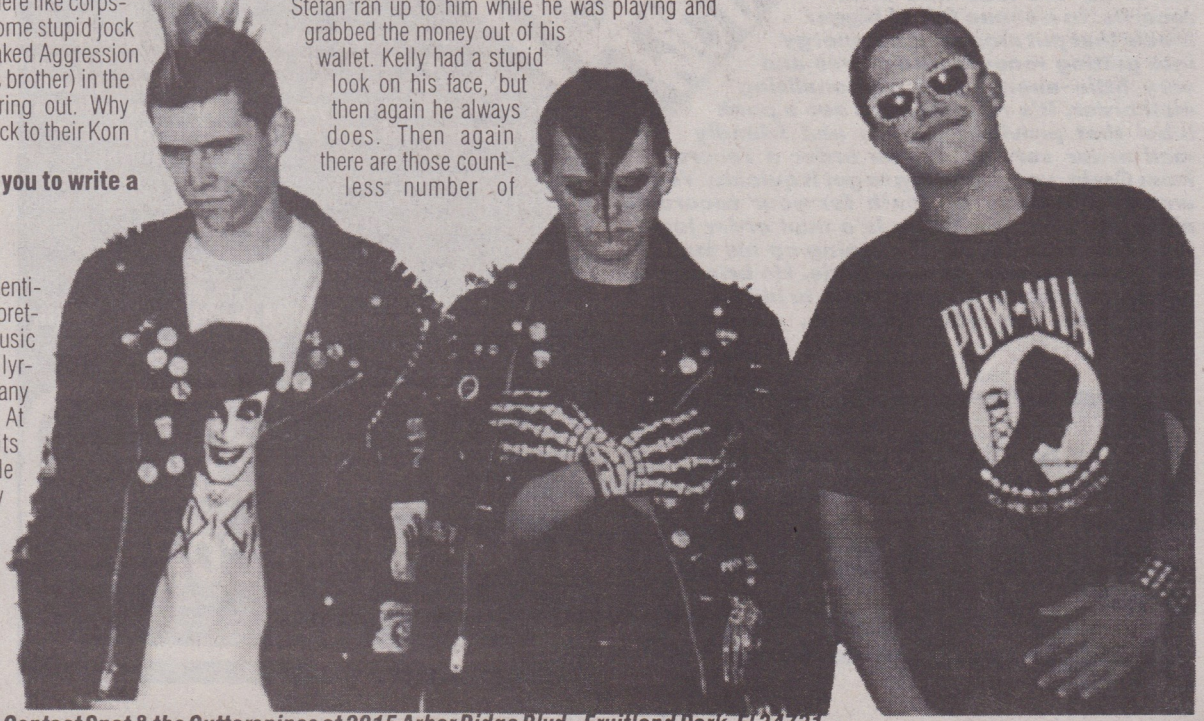
L: We recorded!?

MRR: Briefly, and individually say something that you think someone would want to read.

S: Punk's not dead, unity for life, my dog's name is Ripley.

J: Dick, who doesn't like reading the word 'dick'?

L: When are we gonna start the friggin' interview?



Contact Spat & the Guttersnipes at 2915 Arbor Ridge Blvd., Fruitland Park, Fl 34731

THEY STILL MAKE RECORDS

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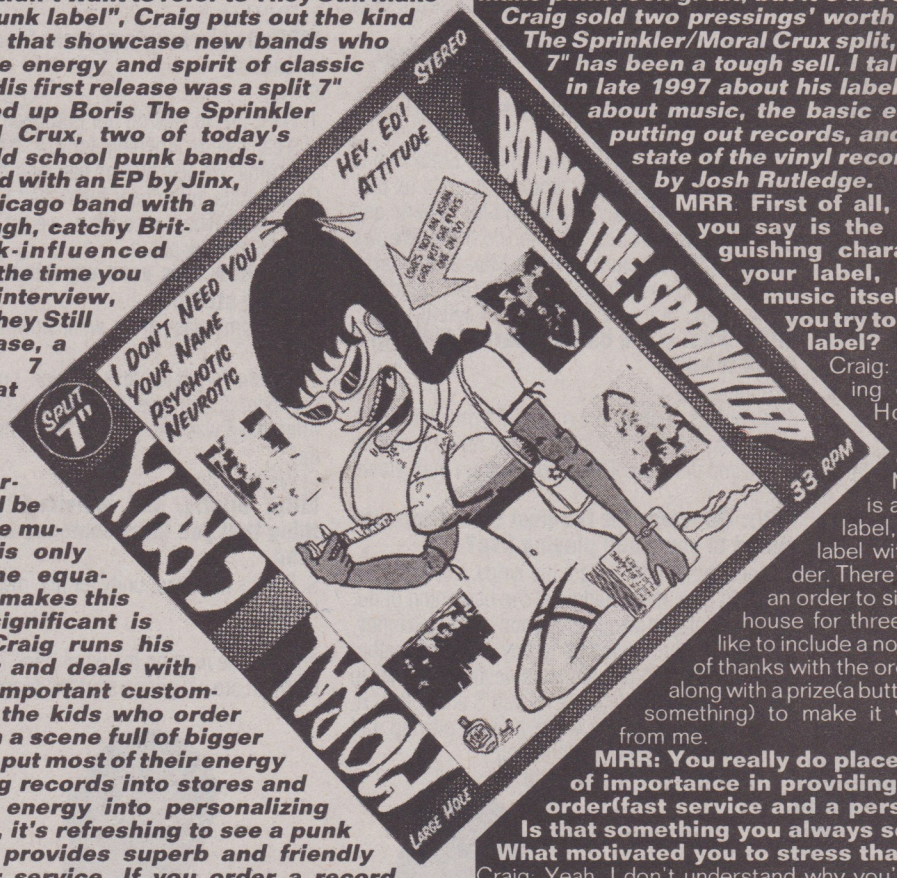
They Still Make Records, a Chicago-based DIY punk rock label, epitomizes everything I love about punk labels. Craig puts out good punk rock releases that are near and dear to my heart. While I wouldn't want to refer to They Still Make as a "77 Punk label", Craig puts out the kind of records that showcase new bands who capture the energy and spirit of classic '77 punk. His first release was a split 7" that teamed up Boris The Sprinkler and Moral Crux, two of today's greatest old school punk bands. He followed with an EP by Jinx, a great Chicago band with a classic tough, catchy British punk-influenced sound. By the time you read this interview, the third They Still Make release, a 17 Years(great classic-sounding punk band from Georgia) EP will be out. But the music itself is only part of the equation- what makes this label so significant is the way Craig runs his mail order and deals with the most important customers of all- the kids who order records. In a scene full of bigger labels that put most of their energy into getting records into stores and very little energy into personalizing mail order, it's refreshing to see a punk label that provides superb and friendly mail order service. If you order a record from Craig, you are going to get it quickly. You won't be waiting a month for your record to show up. Like me, Craig is a mail order junkie who knows the thrill of opening up his mailbox and finding a cool record inside. He brings that same enthusiasm for mail order to his own label. Craig puts out good records, charges low prices($3 for a 7"), and gets his releases out to customers in a fast manner. He runs his label like a fan of music, not a cold, calculating business person. People who run punk labels that way make punk rock great, but it's not always easy. Craig sold two pressings' worth of the Boris The Sprinkler/Moral Crux split, but The Jinx 7" has been a tough sell. I talked to Craig in late 1997 about his label, asking him about music, the basic economics of putting out records, and the current state of the vinyl record. Interveiw by Josh Rutledge.



MRR: First of all, what would you say is the most distinguishing characteristic of your label, besides the music itself? What do you try to do with your label?

Craig: A distinguishing characteristic? Honesty! I will never rip you off. They Still Make Records is a Do-It-Yourself label,a good music label with fast mail order. There's no reason for an order to sit in some guy's house for three weeks! I also like to include a note of some kind of thanks with the orders I send out, along with a prize(a button, a sticker, or something) to make it worth ordering from me.

MRR: You really do place a great deal of importance in providing quality mail order(fast service and a personal touch). Is that something you always set out to do? What motivated you to stress that aspect?

Craig: Yeah, I don't understand why you'd make people wait if you're running a label and it's something you *want* to do. Plus you have *their* money in *your* hands. I hate it when I send for records and it takes a month to get them, and yet there's no note saying *why* there was a delay or even a thanks for the order. It really turns people off to mail order, and then they'd just rather go to a store.

MRR: How did They Still Make Records begin?

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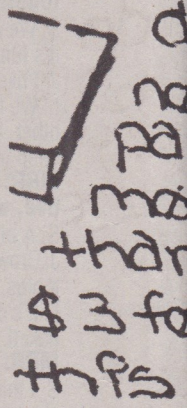

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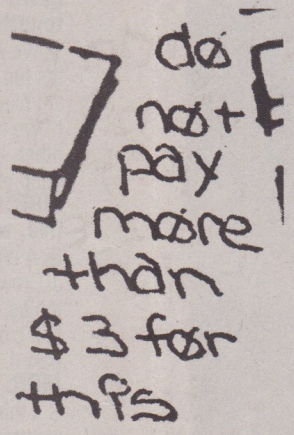

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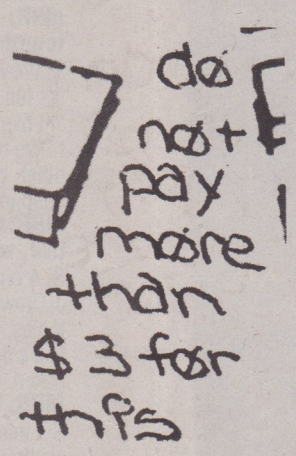

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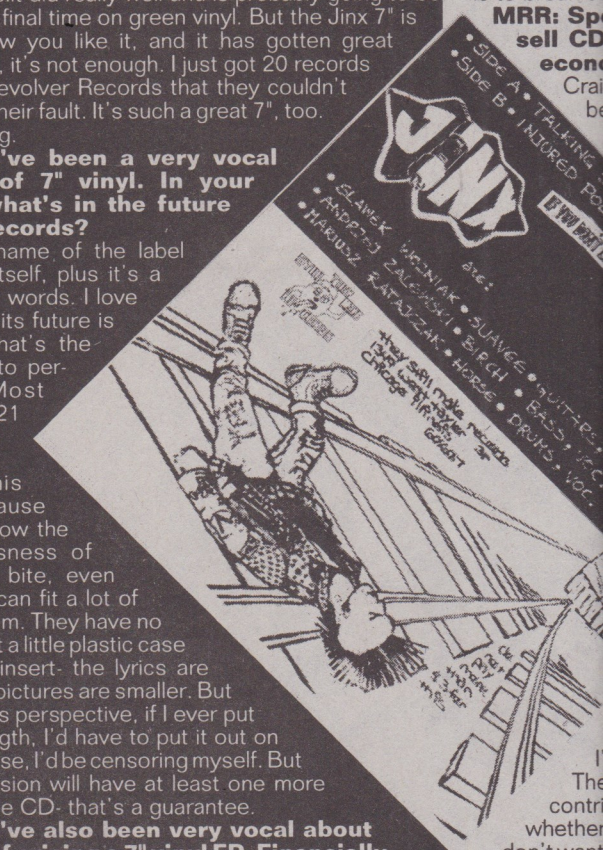
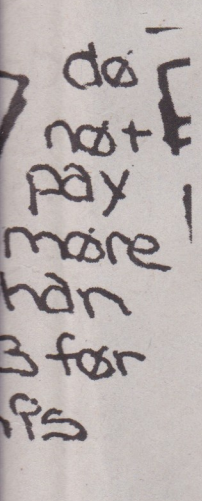
MRR: What was it like putting out an unknown band like Jinx after doing the Boris The Sprinkler/Moral Crux split?
Craig: The split did really well and is probably going to be pressed one final time on green vinyl. But the Jinx 7" is tough. I know you like it, and it has gotten great reviews. Still, it's not enough. I just got 20 records back from Revolver Records that they couldn't sell. It's not their fault. It's such a great 7", too. It's frustrating.

MRR: You've been a very vocal advocate of 7" vinyl. In your opinion, what's in the future for vinyl records?
Craig: The name of the label speaks for itself, plus it's a good pun on words. I love vinyl. I hope its future is good, but that's the way I *want* to perceive it. Most kids under 21 don't even have record players! This sucks, because they only know the cold lifelessness of CDs. CD's bite, even though you can fit a lot of music on them. They have no soul. You get a little plastic case with a little insert- the lyrics are smaller, the pictures are smaller. But from a label's perspective, if I ever put out a full-length, I'd have to put it out on CD. Otherwise, I'd be censoring myself. But the vinyl version will have at least one more song than the CD- that's a guarantee.



MRR: You've also been very vocal about the issue of pricing a 7" vinyl EP. Financially, how well can a label do selling 7"s for $3 post-paid? Are labels that charge $4 overpricing their records?
Craig: Yeah, I don't understand the $4 7"! It really makes me puke. I can't say if they're overpricing their records, because I don't know who they go through to put it out. I sell my 7"s to distributors for $1.85. You can't tell me that labels who have a run of 2,000-3,000 on a first pressing can't afford to sell a 7" for $3. If they do, smash 'em in the face, because they lied to you! Right now, my label is in the big

u to start a label?
an idea a friend and I had in a car for apened. It was going to be a 7" in bands Boris The Sprinkler, Alliga-ed, and Reality Check.My dad gave ne of the label. After I moved out of y came over to see my new place. room and saw seven inches and floor and asked, "They still make on for the label was the desire to w prices, a hatred for major labels, people tell couldn't do would never



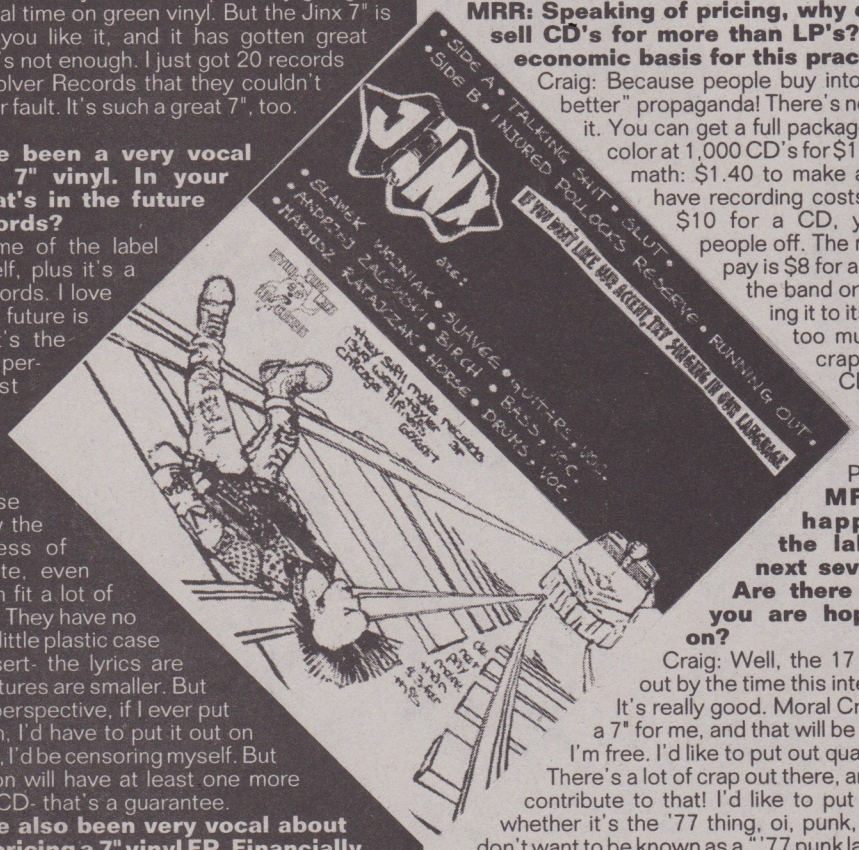
How well have to do cially to label go- What kind cess are ing for to volved label?
want to even. This is hobby that I my time. I good job mind doing, going to guess I'll do not fun any-

ally intent on promoting '77- ayed by newer bands. Do you s style of music now that a lot re more interested in "new" k (hardcore, emo, etc.)?
a future for it. That's where it all of punk. How can you go wrong?
k the "'77 punk" scene is still ? Who are your favorite old s now?
yle will always be around! You've got inx, Moral Crux, Dropkick Murphys, , Blanks 77, Bladder Bladder Blad-crime if it('77 punk) would leave this

like putting out an unknown band like Jinx after doing the Boris The Sprinkler/Moral Crux split?
Craig: The split did really well and is probably going to be pressed one final time on green vinyl. But the Jinx 7" is tough. I know you like it, and it has gotten great reviews. Still, it's not enough. I just got 20 records back from Revolver Records that they couldn't sell. It's not their fault. It's such a great 7", too. It's frustrating.

MRR: You've been a very vocal advocate of 7" vinyl. In your opinion, what's in the future for vinyl records?
Craig: The name of the label speaks for itself, plus it's a good pun on words. I love vinyl. I hope its future is good, but that's the way I *want* to perceive it. Most kids under 21 don't even have record players! This sucks, because they only know the cold lifelessness of CDs. CD's bite, even though you can fit a lot of music on them. They have no soul. You get a little plastic case with a little insert- the lyrics are smaller, the pictures are smaller. But from a label's perspective, if I ever put out a full-length, I'd have to put it out on CD. Otherwise, I'd be censoring myself. But the vinyl version will have at least one more song than the CD- that's a guarantee.

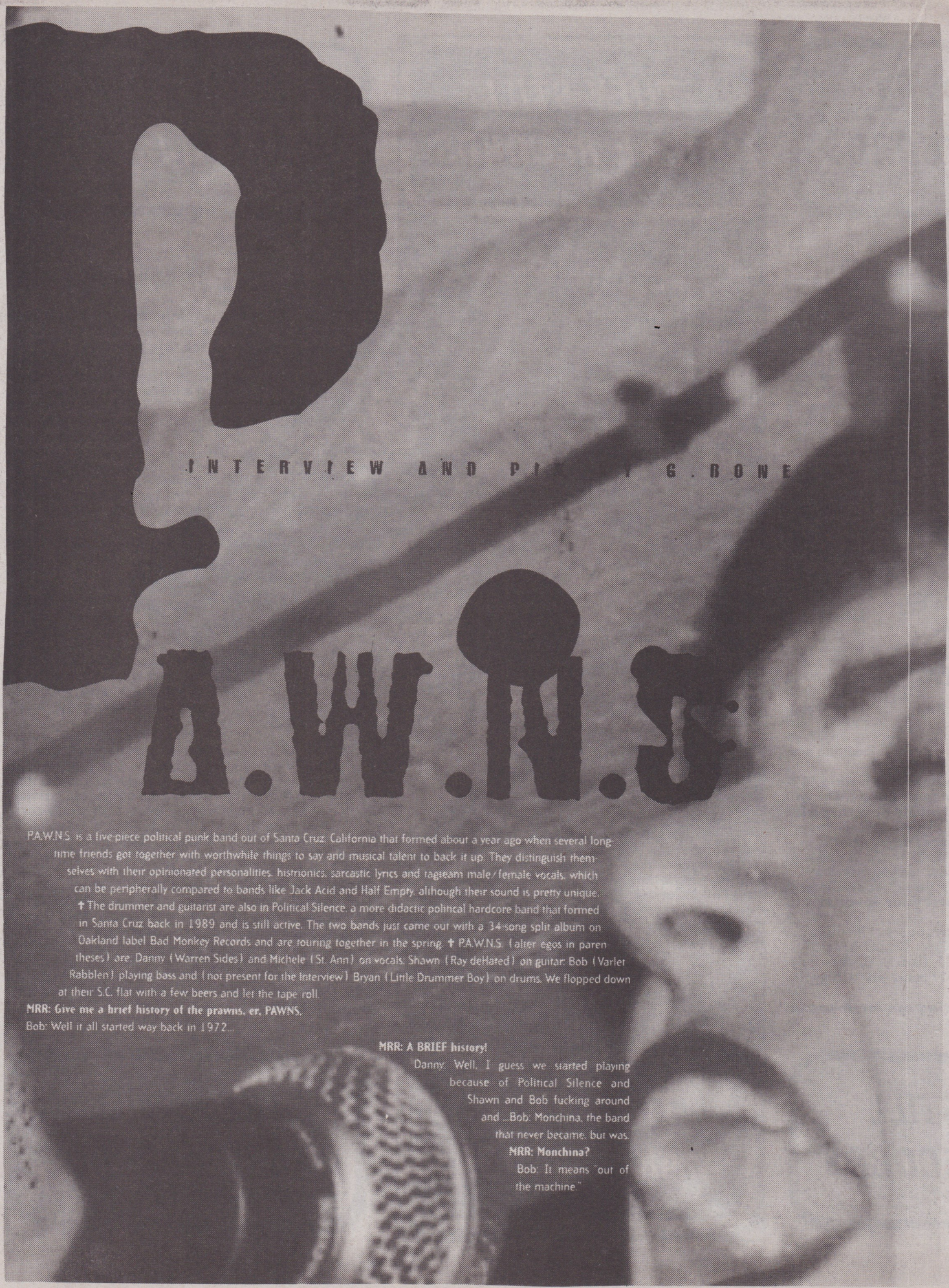
MRR: You've also been very vocal about the issue of pricing a 7" vinyl EP. Financially, how well can a label do selling 7"s for $3 postpaid? Are labels that charge $4 overpricing their records?
Craig: Yeah, I don't understand the $4 7"! It really makes me puke. I can't say if they're overpricing their records, because I don't know who they go through to put it out. I sell my 7"s to distributors for $1.85. You can't tell me that labels who have a run of 2,000-3,000 on a first pressing can't afford to sell a 7" for $3. If they do, smash 'em in the face, because they lied to you! Right now, my label is in the big hole of $1190. But if the records in the pantry sold, I'd be making money. And making money isn't the goal- the goal is to break even.



MRR: Speaking of pricing, why do labels still sell CD's for more than LP's? Is there any economic basis for this practice?
Craig: Because people buy into the "CD's are better" propaganda! There's no justification for it. You can get a full package, 4-panel insert color at 1,000 CD's for $1,400. You do the math: $1.40 to make a CD! Sure you have recording costs, but to charge $10 for a CD, you are ripping people off. The most you should pay is $8 for a CD. Otherwise, the band or the label is selling it to its distributors for too much. I can buy a crappy major label CD for $12. Wow, punk rock! A huge difference of $2! Please!

MRR: What's happening with the label over the next several months? Are there any projects you are hoping to work on?
Craig: Well, the 17 Years 7" will be out by the time this interview is printed. It's really good. Moral Crux is going to do a 7" for me, and that will be great. After that, I'm free. I'd like to put out quality, not quantity. There's a lot of crap out there, and I don't want to contribute to that! I'd like to put out great music whether it's the '77 thing, oi, punk, punk pop, etc. I don't want to be known as a "'77 punk label" and be what Lookout!(who blow) is to pop-punk.

MRR: Anything else you'd like to mention?
Craig: Actually, bands please send me your demos! Since I started, I've only got two. Stores, I deal direct, so give me a call at 312-733-0692. I also do some airbrushing on t-shirts, some band logos, cartoon characters, and other stuff. When you're in Chicago, get to the Dummyroom and buy something! Finally, I love mail. Write me!**Craig/They Still Make Records:1349 West Taylor 3R, Chicago, IL 60607**



INTERVIEW AND PI[illegible] G. DONE

P.A.W.N.S.

P.A.W.N.S. is a five-piece political punk band out of Santa Cruz, California that formed about a year ago when several long time friends got together with worthwhile things to say and musical talent to back it up. They distinguish themselves with their opinionated personalities, histrionics, sarcastic lyrics and tagteam male/female vocals, which can be peripherally compared to bands like Jack Acid and Half Empty, although their sound is pretty unique. † The drummer and guitarist are also in Political Silence, a more didactic political hardcore band that formed in Santa Cruz back in 1989 and is still active. The two bands just came out with a 34-song split album on Oakland label Bad Monkey Records and are touring together in the spring. † P.A.W.N.S. (alter egos in parentheses) are: Danny (Warren Sides) and Michele (St. Ann) on vocals; Shawn (Ray deHated) on guitar; Bob (Varlet Rabblen) playing bass and (not present for the interview) Bryan (Little Drummer Boy) on drums. We flopped down at their S.C. flat with a few beers and let the tape roll.

MRR: Give me a brief history of the prawns, er, PAWNS.

Bob: Well it all started way back in 1972...

MRR: A BRIEF history!

Danny: Well, I guess we started playing because of Political Silence and Shawn and Bob fucking around and ...Bob: Monchina, the band that never became, but was.

MRR: Monchina?

Bob: It means "out of the machine."

MRR: In what language? (some haggling)
Bob: Could be Spanish.
Shawn: It describes a genre of music that was described as quote, "out of the machine." It was kind of a slag on a type of genre, basically. It just kind of looked cool.
MRR: What did Monchina have to do with the PAWNS.
Shawn: Nothing.
Bob: Nothing, except that was where me and Shawn really started gelling. We started playing together and gelling in Monchina. Actually, one of the PAWNS songs, "Followers of Lies" we played. It was the only song we kept.
MRR: So you wrote "Followers of Lies," Shawn?
Shawn: Well, the lyrics I wrote on a train, and Bob and I came up with the music. I came up with the guitar line, but I think Bob really filled it out on the bass, otherwise it was pretty boring.
Bob: Pat, pat, pat!
MRR: How was your getting together related to Political Silence?
Danny: Well, if Shawn wasn't in P.S., Shawn and Bob wouldn't have been jamming and I wouldn't have been kicking around with them one night all drunk while they were playing and wouldn't have said, "Oh, hey," and had like a poem in my head that I had written before and kind of sang while they were messing around.
MRR: Was Political Silence in a lull at the time?
Bob: Political Silence is maybe always sort of, and not, in a lull.
Shawn: It really comes and goes. When we play, there's always a shitload of people, who are the same people, and in fact the first recording we did, it had like 60 people in the band, because the same people would show up and show up and show up. I remember playing at that old club, the One Step Beyond, and just putting the mic down and like Bob, and Jason Douglas was there and just a whole bunch of friends would sing.
MRR: Adam (another friend) sings on "Production Life," ?
Danny: Oh yeah, there's been a lot of guest singers, like when Shawn went to Europe and he didn't play guitar in P.S., there were a ton of guest singers. The band would get up there and play, and people would get up there and go, "I know this song... O-bedience. I'm the king just ask my wife ... blah! Blah!"
MRR: Michele, how'd you get involved in the PAWNS. Did you get involved after they started making noise?
Michele: Yeah, well, everyone was friends for years.
MRR: And you sang for Political Silence on a few songs?
Michele: That didn't come first. You (Shawn) and I were dating, and you started jamming with the PAWNS in Danny's room with Mondo, and I was just there all the time. And after a little while I started piping up and saying, "Hey, it'd be kind of cool if you did this little thing right here."
MRR: And they're like, "Why don't YOU do it."
Danny: Shelby was around all the time supporting us and hanging out, and we all knew she had a killer voice and decided it would be cool if she did some backing vocals on a song or two.
MRR: And she ended up taking over! (laughter)
Danny: You could definitely say that. It was really killer. When it started, it was just backups, and then it went that we just started divvying up the lyrics.
Shawn: I think her place in the band has always been one that added some background substance lyrically and vocal-wise, and it became like, hey, it's natural for you (Michele) to say these lines or come in here because of the ability that she had.
MRR: I want to hear Michele comment on all this.
Michele: The only thing I can think of off the top of my head is "Atechnology," where there's a part where Danny used to sing, "But just like a battered wife, I can't seem to leave this life, and as they schemed and planned, bow, accept my worker's brand." And once I started saying, "Hey, you should do this, you should do this..."
Danny: I think that's the song that started it, actually.
Michele: I'm definitely emphasizing key points or elements of the lyrics or something I can get across better than a male vocalist.
Danny: Well, yeah. Like when you're singing highs and lows, and also what it is you're saying. Like when you go, "Just like a battered wife." Another example is in "Firing Range," that line "I'm gonna write me a letter to the NRA," that's much better in a male voice.
Shawn: And in "Body and Mined" where she says, "Last year my children lost their father," coming from the angle of a widowed third-world nation mother with a bunch of kids and her husband died from a land mine. I think that's an awesome aspect between (reverting to nicknames) Warren and Saint Ann. (laughter) They can really play off each other's stage presence. It's not just a band playing, but like a little play, too. You get these added elements. You should see them at practice, they really play off on each other and crack themselves up playing the roles. It's a drag playing guitar 'cause I'm not good enough to be able to look at you guys, because when I do that I forget I'm playing guitar and I fuck up.
MRR: OK, why P.A.W.N.S.?
Michele: (fake strident) People Against World Nationalist Societies!
Shawn: Yeah, well for example, when we come out on stage, we'll say, "We're PAWNS. We're ALL PAWNS!" Something along those lines.
MRR: PAWNS and Political Silence have a couple members in common. What's different about the bands?
Danny: There's definitely a more fun, like mocking, sarcastic tone to the PAWNS than to Political Silence.
Shawn: For me personally, Political Silence was sort of a cure to suicidal vulnerability. I was really depressed about a lot of shit. But I remember hanging out with Chad (P.S. bassist) when I was 13 or 14, wearing his dad's Air Force gear and thinking we were totally punk and we wanted to start a punk band and I was trying to convince him we'd sing British lyrics, and he pointed out you didn't have to talk British to be punk. But I think the thing about P.S. is, it was sort of a product of the way we felt at the time and I think it illustrates the way I've developed as a person as well.
MRR: How do you feel differently when you play with the PAWNS?
Shawn: Well in the PAWNS I don't give a fuck if I fuck up. I'm too busy having a good time. When I play in Political Silence, I really feel like I'm not just illustrating what I feel, but what I feel collectively with some people that I've really grown so very attached to. ... The difference with the PAWNS is, I fell like I'm more a part of just a play, really. I'm not so concerned with being part of an element so much as I'm just really enjoying myself watching a bunch of mockery and satire.
Michele: Or maybe it's just that Political Silence was formulated by a bunch of people that were growing up together, whereas the PAWNS were formed much later, everyone had gotten to that same point on their own, but we met at that point and are traveling forward from there.
Shawn: That's true, because the reason I play guitar the way I do is because my drummer taught me. Not how to play guitar, but he taught me by his drumming, and same with the bass player in Political Silence. The way I play is an absolute product of our drummer and bass player in P.S., and I'm excited because they helped me develop into the genre of music that I like to play and that comes from me and I'm proud of it.
MRR: P.S. strikes me as a lot more strident and lyrically didactic than the PAWNS. Is that your impression?
Shawn: Well the PAWNS really come across in a satirical way. We've got Bob talking about death and mayhem continuously (laughter), then Warren Sides, who counteracts with the satirical...
Danny: Why is he Bob and I'm Warren?
Shawn: Because he's the Bobnomaly! (laughter)
MRR: And you can't call him Varlet, for god sakes!
Bob: No one can remember it.
Shawn: I think St. Ann comes across as an absolute perfect observer of the way shit is, and where I come into the mix is I just want to have the chance to say shit that is really important. Sometimes it hits people and sometimes it misses, but what I like about Warren Sides' and St. Ann's lyrics is they are really able to touch the human condition on multiple levels. In P.S., we talk about apathy and we talk about, hey, if you're not happy with apathy, think about it in these terms, and it might be Rousseau or a slag on Hobbes or something.
Danny: Can anyone here remember our band philosophy when we started jamming?
Shawn: Did it have something to do with being as fucked up as possible and still play allright?
Danny: Yeah, it was close to that. (laughter)
Michele: What was it, Daaan?
Danny: Well, do you remember talking about, well as long as we're having a good time, then everything's fuckin' cool.
Bob: That was after we had like 15 people in our band.
Shawn: I joined the band 'cause I liked the name, straight up! It had nothing to do being killer friends with these guys.
Danny: Yeah, Shawn stoked us out after we dumped all these people, and jamming with us just so we'd have something to do.
Bob: Plus me and Shawn have always completely gelled.
Danny: Always clicked, yeah.
MRR: All you guys write songs for the band, and each of you has a distinctive way of looking at things.
Danny: Yeah, I love that part!
MRR: How would you each of you characterize the others' styles? Let's hear Michele talk about Bob. Michele hasn't talked enough.
Michele: What are Bob's songs? You got Fox Holed, and you've got Explosion and Slideshow Nightmare, songs that talk about kind of the downward spiral feelings. You think about the guy stuck in the fox hole who's totally fucked up, grabbing for all the things that he's got in his general area and trying to survive as long as he can.
Danny: Bob definitely writes about a moment, and these moments have a death scheme to them. That's all there is to it.
Michele: Now Bob has a formula! It's the Bob-ula. (laughter)
MRR: OK, now Danny.
Bob: Dan has an array of stuff. He always wants to write about something that's a little bit lighter. But he definitely has a good, solid perspective on life in his lyrics and the shit he writes, except for Monkey House.
MRR: Oh yeah, the "suicide" song.

Danny: I gotta say something about Welcome to the Monkey House. That song was written when I was about 16 or 17, and basically it was that little rhyme scheme that went to a guitar lick Shawn was busting out, and it's a quick song. The reason I gave it that title is because I had just read the book by Kurt Vonnegut, but it has nothing to do with the book. The only thing close to the same is it's about suicide, there's the one short story by Vonnegut where it was futuristic and they would go into the centers to kill themselves and the nurses were like Robert Palmer chicks.

Michele: All addicted to love.

MRR: Yeah, but there was no sex allowed, and there was the outlaw guy on the loose who was going into the centers and fooling the nurses into having sex with him.

Danny: Welcome to the Monkey House as it is now is very negative, like, "I'm gonna kill myself," but I want to do another version about the short story and another one that's speaking positively about how suicide is stupid, because here I am. I didn't kill myself, but I did write those lyrics.

MRR: Do you think anyone will accuse you of glorifying suicide?

Danny: I've even heard someone say, "Oh, they're hate mongers," about fuckin' "Bury Garcia."

Shawn: Yeah, that's bullshit. We're equal opportunity slaggers.

MRR: So some people are offended by Bury Garcia, Michele, care to comment?

Michele: The bottom line is that people listening to our lyrics need to remember or look inside themselves to look at the common element that might make them feel that way. Because I know they identify with it. You got the whole downtown scene with the bum asking you for change, and you can see the events that brought him to that point in time. We're talking about stereotypes here. He's probably been on tour with the Grateful Dead...

Danny: Or Phish.

Bob: Or maybe they're going and stabbing your friend in the butt (relating to some incident I forgot to ask about).

Michele: Well exactly. I think what we're doing with that song, and Dan can correct me if I'm wrong, because he's the one who wrote the lyrics, is trying to pinpoint where the stereotype came from and relocate the reason the stereotype came about of those quote-unquote "hippies" down on the corner of downtown USA. To me it's mostly satirical and sarcastic, and it's not about hate and it's not about a "down with hippies" kind of thing.

Shawn: Most of the people that dislike the lyrical content are people who really aren't sure about themselves. You know, hippies who listen to that song won't be bummed about themselves if they really understand who they are. It's the ones who really try to play up "the scene" like I'm a punk this, or a hippie that, they're the ones who are most offended because they're not sure about themselves.

MRR: Tell me about "Badge of Stupidity?"

Michele: The concept of "Badge of Stupidity," well, first of all, it started off with Dan, with the chorus: "Badge of Stupidity, plus-four armor of I Don't Care," which is pretty funny because it's a play on the whole dungeons and dragons thing, like, that's four more points that won't let you get to me...

Danny: ... Because I'm so fuckin' cool. It actually all started at UC-Santa Cruz. There was a show, and Shawn's brother Travis got into a fight. It came from a punk starting a fight with a guy (Travis) that looked pretty much like your average student.

Michele: Battle of the stereotypes!

Shawn: The sick-ass thing is Travis was going to see the Ramones and Murphy's Law back when he was about 13, and the punks who jumped him, when they were 13, they had no idea about what the punk scene was about. I'm sure of it. And it just struck me as nauseating that they would start shit with someone who was far more tolerant than any fucking subversive culture could ever hope to be.

Michele: The meat of the song is about people second-guessing those stereotypes ... but there's some people who take them a step farther and make it a part of their lives and sort of lose themselves in it. The lyrics themselves say, in general, that you don't have to be a certain type of person to listen to punk music. It doesn't matter who you are if you identify with the lyrical concepts, and that's really what it's all about. We don't all have to look the same to believe the same thing.

MRR: In that song you say, "You call yourself a punk, it's a term of the past." What do you mean, exactly?

Shawn: It's retrospective. It's kind of like we're being satirical towards the fact that, back in the late 70s, the people comprising the whole punk scene never thought of themselves as quote, "punks."

Bob: Punk is like a term made now for people back then.

Shawn: Precisely. So it's just a mockery of terminology, really. That's the way I see it.

Danny: We're not hitting on the point of the person walking down the street with their (Rudimentary Peni) and their Nomeansno and Dead Kennedy's shit all over their fuckin body and their ripped clothes that want to kick your ass because you don't look like them, and they do not preach anything that those bands they are wearing...

Shawn: Those same bands are tattooed on our fucking brains, and to just see it pinned on someone who wants to kick someone else's ass because they don't have the (Rudimentary Peni) patch or the DKs patch or the Crass patch. It just makes me fuckin' sick.

Danny: The Crass patch pisses me off the most.

Michele: I think the problem is you guys are addressing it in terms of bands, but it's in terms of ideals, you don't have to be in a certain scene to believe a certain thing. ... (tape ends)

MRR: Can you start that emotional monologue again?

Michele: What was I saying? A person who has never listened to a band like Crass could still believe the same things Crass...

Danny: Preaches?

Michele: I guess you could use that word, but it's not a very good one. But the ideas Crass presents, you don't have to listen to Crass to believe in the same ideals.

MRR: So, what is the Badge of Stupidity?

Danny: The Badge of Stupidity is when you're walking around with all your spikes and all your safety pins and piercings and tattoos and everything, and your patches along your pants and thrown on your jacket of all these bands...

Shawn: Not just thrown on, but positioned ever so perfectly punk.

MRR: Impeccably.

Danny: Exactly. ...that you're saying, this is me and these bands, what they're saying in their music is what I believe in. And then they come on with this drunk ... or whatever addiction it might be...

Shawn: Ego!

Danny: Whatever... that you want to kick someone else's ass that you don't even fucking know. You know, you're using all that leather and patches and safety pins as a badge, like saying, "Hey look at this! This is my reason for being so stupid and wanting to kick your ass right now for no fuckin' reason." And that is a badge of stupidity. They don't get to know that person. And if the person looks like them, maybe, they'll let them in for a fuckin' second.

MRR: Let's change the subject. What inspires you guys? Who are your heroes and what are your inspirations?

Bob: Hate, sometimes.

Shawn: It's a way of feeding off a bunch of apathy and aggression, because punk rock kept me from killing myself a long time ago and many times since. Suicidal vulnerability is synonymous with punk rock, but the ironic thing is, punk rock keeps you from killing yourself or somebody else.

MRR: What do you mean?

Shawn: Just absolute frustration with things and not being able to do anything directly by yourself, but at the very least, being able to go to some underground club, the Gilman is a perfect example ... some little fuckin' dive in a brick indiscreet building, and you cruise in and say, "Here, I am home, because here other people understand my frustration." And I don't know 'em, but I feel a bond with them, because they're here for the same reasons I am, because I don't have any other way to express myself other than killing myself or someone else or blowing some shit up.

MRR: But maybe some of them are wearing the Badge of Stupidity.

Shawn: Well, we know that.

Danny: You know, it's kind of like an extended family, beyond hanging out with your bros and drinking a few beers and going like, "This pisses me off and that pisses me off." When we get together and play music, we have a great time, and that's what really matters to us. We really can get rid of a lot of stress. Whether it's the job, the traffic...

Michele: The Man! (laughter)

Danny: Yeah, thanks a lot Shelb.

MRR: Shelby, what inspires you?

Michele: My personal heroine...

Shawn: Heroin. (others heckle)

MRR: Let her talk, for gawd sakes!

Michele: Eve Libertine from Crass, she's great. I particularly love their Penis Envy album, which is all Eve Libertine's vocals over every song. I like it because she's not bagging men, as expected with the title, but questioning a lot of standards that have been put to society, not just male and female roles, but things in general. I also like what she does with her vocals. It's not just a bunch of screaming female estrogen coming out. It's a lot of actual talent coming out too.

MRR: We never finished the question about lyrical styles. So you guys talk about Michele.

Danny: I love Badge of Stupidity. I think she did a great job with that.

Shawn: St. Ann has one of the most rare gifts, and that's absolute neutrality. She won't side with anybody and doesn't even take a stance that purports that she believes this. Michele is like the ideal blind judge, if you ever had to come before one. She weighs all the sides and gives you the straight-up scenario of what's going on. And her lyrics illustrate this character. She just points things out. If they are satirical, it's because satire was eminent in the situation. If her lyrics are positive or negative, it's because it was there. Michele is the best historian.

Danny: Between Michele and I, we could be crucified for some of our lyrics if you just read them, but if you talked to us or hear the way they're put into context...

Michele: Hey, you be Jesus, I'll be Christ, OK?

Danny: Jesus Christ!

MRR: Speaking of which, religion pops up in your lyrics. Is their any religious element in this band.

Shawn: Well, Warren is a born-again Christian, and it's been a battle for him to stay in the band, but I appreciate his perseverance.

Michele: And Bob's a Bob, I'll follow Bob.

MRR: Alright, shut up you guys!

Danny: We're all of religion.

Shawn: No, I never subscribed to that.

MRR: Just the theme has come up in a few songs.

Danny: Yeah, it does, well, religion is pretty heavy.

Bob: Religion is integrated into politics and pretty much every aspect of your life whether you like it or not.

Danny: I would definitely say everyone in the band is very religious in that ...

Michele: Religious is a bad word. Spiritual.

Danny: Spiritual, also. I think we all question what religion and spirituality are.

Shawn: Talk to me about that. I think there's an element of deism in my mind and I can't shag it. It's there. Somebody put shit in motion, and that's why I'm doing what I'm doing. Kinda like the watchmaker theory, where somebody or something set the clock and then split to do other things.

Michele: I don't know about that. I think we're all individually spiritual beings, and we can't help but be that, because there has to be something that makes us all tick as individuals, and as far as religion goes, in our lyrics, if we're bagging religion at all, it's organized religion, because it's organized religions that have taken us away from our own individual spirituality and focused it on something that's more the governmental or societal type of feeling, and me personally, I'm striving towards being the best individual I can be and surrounding myself with people who are doing the same type of thing.

Shawn: Gee Michele, that sounds a lot like anarchism to me!

(5 minutes of untranscribable chaos)

MRR: So what are your plans for the future.

Michele: Continue to voice our opinions because we hope, and partly know, that there are people out there that think the way we do, and to try and connect with those people and build a foundation of some sort of sub-society.

Danny: A lot of my thoughts are spent on like, how to keep the band together. Not that I feel like we're not going to be, but I think about all the things everyone is trying to do besides the PAWNS.

Shawn: We're going to buy a community on like 100 acres and have our clanarchy there.

Bob: We'll have a little herd of bison, ya know?

Shawn: Bison! Yeaaah! (laughter)

An Interview with Rayny Poser by "ARA" Jay Buston.

MRR: Names and whay you play?

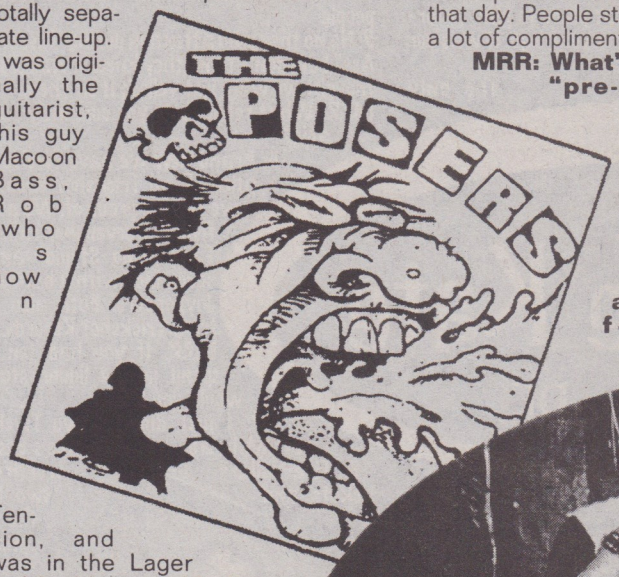
RP: Well, for the last year or so, the line-up has been like this: Luther Heron is on the crazy axe, while Andy Gammon is playing the low-end, and Squatter Sean Boone is on drums, and me on vocals.

MRR: Influences?

RP: We are a pretty diverse band. Luther likes a lot of oi and street punk, and so do the rest of us. Andy is more into hardcore punk and crust, while Sean likes everything from oi to death metal and grindcore. I like just about anything except bad wanker shit.

MRR: When did the band start?

RP: Started in the very end up 1994 under the name Super Patient and a totally separate line-up. I was originally the guitarist, this guy Maco on Bass, Rob (who is now in Tension, and was in the Lager Lads) on drums and Andrew Lochhead on Vocals. Our first show, however was in Feb 1995 and had Maco on drums and John Bocoven on Bass. I think that show was Feb 1995 with Village Idiot and Plastic Gary.



MRR: Releases?

RP: We put out our first Demo "Kill the Ravers" and it sold well. We are releasing 5 of those songs on a 7inch on Blind Beggar, any day now it'll be done. We also have recorded for another 7inch on Pair O Docs, which should also be out soon. We're doing some various comps too; No Fate IV (HG Fact in Japan), "Caught in the Cyclone II" (Cyclone Records, USA) and a Shark D (Japan) Records CD sampler. Future releases coming up a little later on Pelado Records, as well as Will E. Survive and more.

MRR: What is the local scene like?

RP: The Rose City scene suffered for years and years and was more of a high school clique than it was a scene. But, now things are gradually getting better. There are a lot more younger kids coming out to shows, a lot more bands starting. Our shows are getting bigger and bigger, while losing the "tough guy" attitude that big scenes have.

MRR: What sort of "sound" would you consider your band to have?

RP: This is a tough one. I can't really think of anyone to compare us to, although just the other day, someone said we sound a little like old Poison Idea. We just play fast, melodic punk. We have a touch of oi influence and a touch of hardcore, gruff vocals and catchy songs.

MRR: What was it like playing at spiders punkfest this year in front of over 3 thousand people?

RP: Insane! We were all so damn drunk and unprepared really. It was our first big show besides Windsor Punkfest in 1995. We played half-decently despite our drummer's inability to keep a beat due to his fucking PCP intake that day. People still seems to like us, we got a lot of compliments and we had fun.

MRR: What's the most important "pre-show rituals" that your band always performs?

RP: You mean getting drunk? Geez we never forget that. Getting drunk should be a "pre-everything" ritual.

MRR: How do u feel about your "new found fame" ..? You know about all the 7" and comp deals that you have just received??

RP: Look-Out Green Day! Here comes The Posers! Haha

MRR: Who would you say was your favorite band to play with??

RP: I liked the Hardcore show with Strong Intention. Personally, I like Urbn DK's music a lot better and we played with them a bunch, but the crowd and everything was peak at the Strong Intention show. I also like playing a local show with the Lager Lads because we're all pissed up and just wanna have a good time. Everyone seems to enjoy those kinds of shows.

MRR: Tell me a little about your views of the new style punk rock and major labels picking it up?

RP; Well, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to know that these watered-down, major label lovers contradict ideals that real punks have put together. Punk Rock isn't an alternative to the mainstream if it is the mainstream.

MRR: Do any of you have jobs?

RP; I work on the "Beautification team" for the City. Luther works as a Bouncer at Changez, and he owns his own record shop. Andy does work in an old-folks home (what fun that must be!) and our drummer, Sean is the only unemployed/homeless person in the band.

MRR: What are your future plans for the band and yourselves?

RP: Um.. Put out a lot of records, play a lot of shows - We'd like to do a complete tour next summer as well as out-of-town shows throughout the year. And get drunk and have fun doing it all ourselves.

MRR: If you could make a "fall off the world" tour which bands would you like to see on it??

RP: What, you mean the band plays and falls off the world after? Um geez - too many! Let's start with Green Day, Rancid, Pennywise, Offspring, NoFX, NIN, MxPx and every single new-school ska/punk Operation Ivy wannabe band there is. And add Prodigy and all that Raver shit, too. They deserve to die.

The Posers are from Canada but we only have the address for the label that's putting out their 7", which is in Germany: it's Blind Beggar Records c/o W. Fieger, Bogenstr 25, D-66957 Eppenbrunn, Germany.

Explosive Kate

Wilmington, DE.

Where to begin? Explosive Kate is a almost completely unknown band from the almost completely unknown city of Wilmington, Delaware. They've been together for almost four years now and still cant seem to find a niche in the punk rock world. Hopefully this interview will open up some eyes to what the punk community has been missing. (The band was interviewed at home on Sept. 6 '97 by LN)

MRR: Let's start at the beginning. Who are you guys, how old are you and what do you do?

J: My name is Johnny Angel. I'm older then most of your readers and I play bass and do backups.

D: My names Dave Wrighteous. I'm dusty and I beat the skins and occasionally play drums.

B: Hi, I'm Wild Bill. I play the guitar and sing the lead vocals.

D: Badly.

B: And I'm old enough to be your acquaintance.

MRR: Has this always been the same line-up?

J: Sure has. Well the only one that matters anyway.

B: We've had more line ups then Spinal Tap, but not as interesting nobody spontaneously combusted. Although I hoped a few would.

D: Yeah, we've had a couple of bass players but I don't remember them. It was pre rehab.

MRR: A lot of people have compared you to the Queers. How do you feel about that?

D: Who said that? I'll kill them.

J: I don't see it.

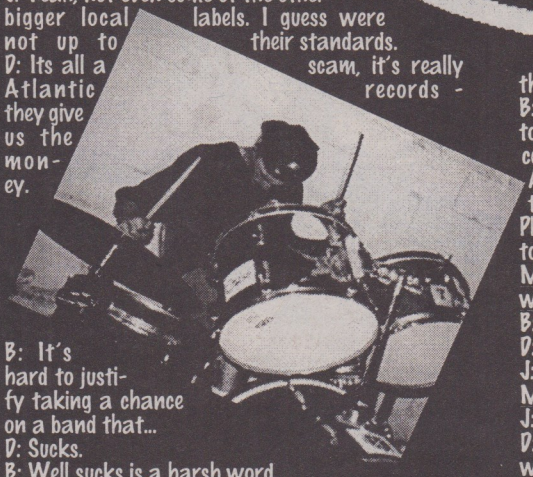
D: We'll out drink them.

MRR: Okay, all your stuff has been released on Wild Bill's record label Trickshot Records. Was this a decision to keep other people's hands off your music?

B: Well we do it because no one else has offered to do anything with us.

J: Yeah, not even some of the other bigger local labels. I guess were not up to their standards.

D: Its all a scam, it's really Atlantic records - they give us the money.



B: It's hard to justify taking a chance on a band that...

D: Sucks.

B: Well sucks is a harsh word.

D: Does not play well?

B: Now,now.

D: Sorry.

MRR: What do you guys do in your free time?

D: I'm doing it.

J: Yeah, Dave drinks and Bill and I work.

MRR: Since it seems to be the trend these days what currently defunct band would you like to see reform?

B: None reunions are bullshit. If you're broken up stay broken up.

D: The Beatles.

J: I think we'll stick with Bills comment until we're old and want to cash in.

MRR: Describe for the readers if you will, the current Delaware punk scene?

B: Okay, there really isn't one. Its a couple of people who are completely disorganized. Everyone's out for themselves.

D: To summarize, whine, whine, bitch, stab, stab, bitch,crap,bitch,stab,stab,bitch,whine.

MRR: Well then why do you stay here?

J: Laziness and the fact that no ones ever asked us to play outside of Delaware.

MRR: What's your favorite place in the world to play?

J: You mean in Delaware? The Barn Door.

B: The Barn Door was a great place to play unfortunately it closed down over a year ago. It was our home away from home.

D: It was the only place that would have us.

B: It was a great place for a lot of punk bands touring and otherwise. The Queers played there a couple of years ago as well as Blanks 77 and Fifteen. A lot of good bands would come to town and now that the Barn Doors closed down we have to go to Philadelphia to see touring bands and I'm not willing to make that sacrifice.

MRR: Homer Simpson's life long goal was to eat the worlds largest hoagie. What are yours?

B: To get through the day with out going insane.

D: To not suck.

J: To see a girl naked at least once.

MRR: Who was your favorite band to play with?

J: Jake & the Stiffs or The Cheatin' Hussies.

D: That band we played with at Shea Stadium with the laser lights,screaming fans and mountains of cocaine.

MRR: In keeping with the Queers comparisons. Who is your favorite punk rock girl?

J: Donna R. the guitarist from the Donnas. She wears leather pants and plays better than any guy I know.

B: The Bobbyteens, all of them.

D: I don't know.

B: You want Poly Styrene and you know it.

D: Yeah, I'll go with that.

MRR: You guys look pretty normal, no piercings, patches or wild hair. How can you call yourselves punk?

B: Well looks can be deceiving.

D: My plaid bondage pants are at the dry cleaner.

B: We're about as normal as a snow storm in July.

MRR: What was the longest set you've ever played?

J: Forty five minutes.

D: Three hours at Wembly Stadium.

B: Forty five minutes, twenty five minutes of music and twenty minutes of us talking out our ass.

MRR: Shortest?

J: My first show. Seven songs about thirteen minutes.

B: Twenty five minutes. About thirteen minutes of music and twelve minutes of us talking out our ass. It was a terrible show. We played the local biker bar The Buggy Tavern and it was during the world series. So nobody was paying attention to the band. Which I guess is a good thing since we were playing songs like "Kiss My Fuckin' Ass" to these tough looking people.

D: No,no they paid attention during "Kiss My Fuckin' Ass" but I don't think they knew it was a song. They thought we were just yelling it at them.

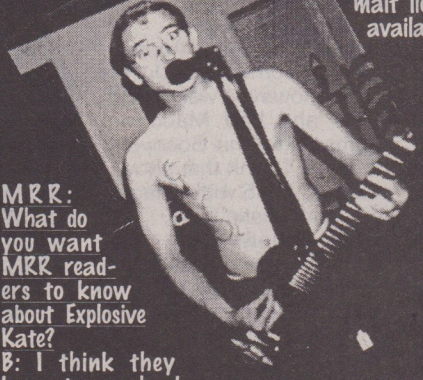
MRR: What releases do you currently have available?

B: Brand new we have twelve song self titled LP. on Trickshot Records which we're very proud of. We also have a five song seven inch called "Its Not Easy Being Stupid" and a split seven inch with a band called The Joypoppers. Both also available from Trickshot Records.

MRR: If you had ten bucks to spend in the liquor store, what would you buy?

D: I just did. Two Twelve packs of Milwaukee's Best.

B: Five dollars worth of lottery tickets and two forties of the cheapest malt liquor available.



MRR: What do you want MRR readers to know about Explosive Kate?

B: I think they know too much already.

D: That we're, uh, lame.

MRR: Any last words?

J: As Bill said our debut LP. is out now its twelve songs including new versions of "Kiss My Fucking Ass" from our first ep. and "Slowly Going Insane" from our split with the Joypoppers as well as a drastically different version of the Forgotten Rebels tune "In Love With The System". Its definitely the best thing we've ever done. Also it is available only on vinyl and its limited to 300 copies. Its available for a scant $7ppd. in the U.S. and $10ppd. for the rest of the world. Send us cash or blank money orders because we don't like dealing with banks. The address is 815 Rosedale Ave. #1 Wilmington, DE. 19809, and oh yeah,take chances, you're young, you'll live forever. Hi Art.

If you're are young, attractive and female or just want to order a record send a stamp for a catalog to: Trickshot Records 815 Rosedale Ave. #1 Wilmington, DE. 19809. or e-mail at expkate@aol.com

DOUCHE FLAG

Douche Flag are a 'we hate you' punk band out of Fresno, CA. They share a big old house in the slums with a couple other punk bands and every night in the living room it's either band practice or a gig of sorts. They kinda have their own scene where they live. Interview Oct. 97 by Dale Stewart.

MRR: Who all lives here, such as band members and what is it like to live in a punk house?

Lonnie: We three live here and Jay, Sid and Gary lives here, too. And it's dirty and unpredictable.

MRR: And everybody is in one band or another. How many bands practice here?

Brau: About 5 or 6. Dwindle: There's us, Da Toddlers, Rot, Primeapes, Share Hate and the Naughty Kids.

MRR: You guys had this big kegger here. Lots of people. All the bands played.

Lonnie: Yeah, we've had a shitload of parties here.

MRR: What is the meaning behind the name Douche Flag?

Brau: It's the American flag, all flags. Douche 'em. They're all worthless. Anything you build a flag to.

Lonnie: Anything you can believe in.

MRR: I get a lot of anger out of what you guys are doing. But, it's more. It's this bone-crushing rage. What are you guys so pissed off about?

Brau: I'm tired of all the shit. Every fuckin' day. Even though some people have it worse, some have it better, it all fuckin' sucks.

Lonnie: I just like to go off, man.

Dwindle: The music drives the message.

MRR: Do you really want to kill football fucks as it says in your lyrics?

Lonnie: A couple that go to my girlfriend's school.

Brau: Why not?

Dwindle: I'm sure they feel the same way about us.

MRR: What do you think about the other scenes like ska, skins, heshers?

Brau: Fuck em . Lonnie: They pretend like they like us so they can hang out with us. We get regular old kooks, skaters, scumbags.....

MRR: How does it make you feel to hear the cop helicopters flying overhead every night?

Lonnie: Paranoid.

Dwindle: I'm just glad they are not after me.

Brau: I just wonder who they are chasing. Whether they'll get away or not. If they catch you in those big spotlights you're screwed.

MRR: How about when they beat up on innocent people and get away with it?

Brau: Hang 'em. They always pull that shit.

Lonnie: Cops around here are real negative, man. They harass you for the way you look. Search and seizure for no good reason. I got stopped by a cop last night. For no good reason. They took my name and number. I was just going to the store.

MRR: What is the song "Smoke Base Rock" about?

Lonnie: It's about people who play in bands to be something they're not. To be this 'cool being'. To have a punk band to get all the chicks. That is not what it's all about. We hate those people and we hate you if you're like reading this, very fucking much.

Dwindle: That's only from Lonnie 'cause me and Braufold don't feel that way.

Lonnie: I'm Lonnie Potbag and I got something to say. I speak my mind and in my lyrics. And "Killing Being" is about assholes with guns. If you just look at them wrong they'll blow you away.

Dwindle: That really sucks that you have to worry about giving them the wrong impression or they'll shoot up the house at four in the morning.

Brau: And what are you gonna do about it?

MRR: What do you think about the local punk scene?

Dwindle: I think if the scene wasn't so closed it would be a lot better.

Lonnie: There's one good band, The Undiscovered. As far as the other bands go I don't know, they're ok. Share Hate is good. And to be real PC about it, we are the best band around here.

Brau: PC full of shit. Oppressed Logic rules!

Lonnie: We played our first show with Oppressed Logic, it was killer.

Brau: It seems like all the venues in Fresno get shut down. They jack up prices so high it makes it really hard to do a DIY show. And, there are so few places that book on a regular basis.

Lonnie: It's too much fuckin' money to have any fun with it.

MRR: But you guys get to play here every night! Does Douche Flag have any gigs booked?

Lonnie: We've got a show this Saturday at Hi Tech with The Undiscovered.

Dwindle: But nobody's allowed to dance. So, it might get shut down. After this Saturday no one will ever get to play Hi Tech again. It's bullshit not to let people dance. What do they expect?

MRR: Are you guys gonna go down there and fuck shit up?

Dwindle: No, but if they don't let people dance then they are just asking for trouble. And it's not just slam dancing, it's any dancing. We were slamming and they made us stop. They said they were gonna shut down the show if we didn't stop. So, we started doing the twist and they still said they were — going to shut it down.

MRR: Future plans?

Dwindle: We would like to put out a 7 inch if there are any labels interested.

MRR: You have two tapes available, right?

Brau: The first one is on Dildo and the second one is on Tortured Flag, that's us and both tapes can be had for $4 ppd. from Douche Flag, 3575 W. Barstow #114, Fresno, CA 93711. We are available for shows. Give us a call at pager #(209) 290-2190.

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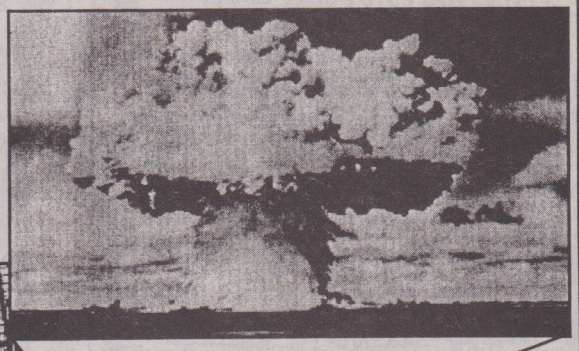

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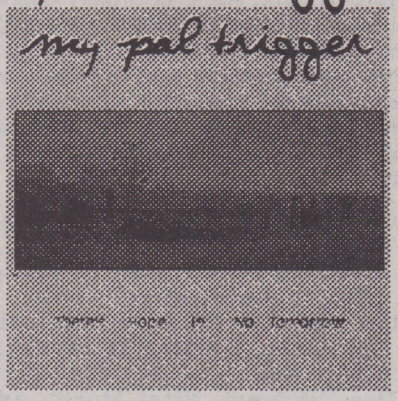

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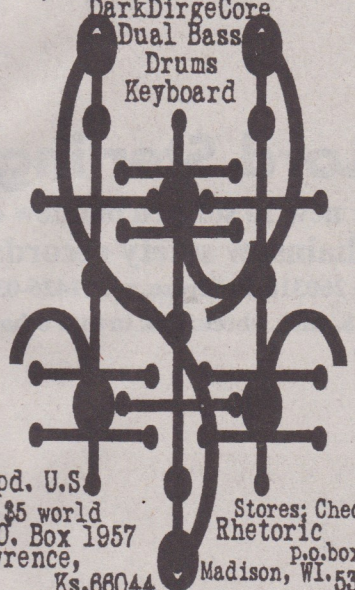

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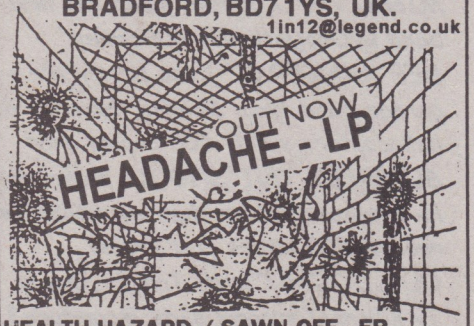

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Remember the thrill of rushing home with a new record? Playing the damned thing over and over again with the cover and sleeves in your hand, following along with the lyrics. It was like holding the whole world between your hands. Searching and researching the cover, the sleeve, the vinyl itself for hidden treasures, that were surely overlooked before! Records are by far the superior format 5, 7,10 and 12 inches. It's not the size but how you use it! Cassettes lend themselves well as companion to, especially where convenience becomes necessity, I still haven't quite grasp the CD thing, but that's me. Records are just that, a recording of a small time and place where someone thought it necessary to scratch the thing in wax, so it may be later relived over and over again. Truly great records provide countless services. Some uses are better than others, though I enjoy owning records that now bring a tidy sum, I enjoy them better knowing I bought them for the going rate at my local record stores. I was very fortunate being born the time and place I was (NYC, 1965). For those less fortunate and for the records that I have either overlooked or misplaced (stolen?), record hunting becomes a new adventure. There are those who take advantages of this situation and place hefty price tags on hard to find records, or maybe this is some sort of conspiracy? Any way, above all I believe records are meant to be listened to!! I find picture discs and collectibles stupid, again that's me.

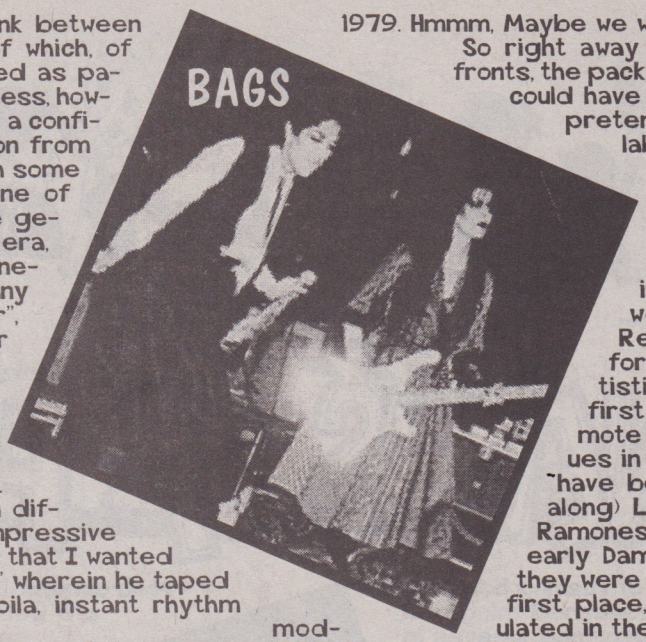
So here I am, a paragraph into MaximumRocknRoll's Pioneers of Punks, and all I have spoken about are my vinyl preferences. Well, I'll be getting to the heart of the story now. Over the years record companies have provided us with great resources, bootleggers as well. There are a lot of sleazy companies that care less for what is going out musically than what is going out in numbers. Exploitation and shit has always, and will always, plague the music business. In the midst of all that is bullshit, seldom we find those that are strong enough, and perhaps crazy enough not to prostitute their integrity and actually produce and release a record worth listening to. This brings me to Dave Brown and Dangerhouse Records.

The Dangerhouse catalog and players reads like a book of who's who, of early California punk rock. Legendary bands like the Black Randy's Metrosquad, Dils, Weirdos, X, Alleycats, and the Bags are but a few of the bands that found themselves working with Dangerhouse. It was a great time for punk rock, and I'm grateful for Dave Brown and Dangerhouse for having the keen insight of recording it. When I first decided to write this story on Dangerhouse, I thought I might try to contact Dave Brown. Surprisingly, he was not hard to track down and he was extremely helpful. Originally I thought my focus was to be on the individual releases and bands, after all that's what sparked my interest. But, after having the pleasure to speak with the man I found him as interesting as the records themselves. I knew a little about the records and the bands, so I figured he could help me out with some insight on the scene back then, making the article more interesting, and finally I'd do a little interview with him. Dave was super helpful, and he faxed me this letter. At first thought I was going to use the information, and paraphrase, but after the second read I decided to include it, (as is) in this report. Here it is:

"As a child I was fascinated by vinyl records and their packaging, (I'm sure you were too), the labels, typographical and artistic conventions of the 50's, even just the realization of the physics of the "spiral scratch". Including the delights of playing records at the wrong speed until my mother threatened me with bodily harm..... It was therefore a therapeutic necessity for me to have the Dangerhouse experience at some point of my life. The fact that Dangerhouse came out as well as it did was a happy accident and probably had nothing to do with me. I met a strange older f'g named Tomata du Plenty in NY in 1973 and later again with his strange companion Tommy Tibbets in LA in 1976. As things progressed, Tommy and I worked together as office lackey wage slaves in Century city that summer, where the newsstand sold Melody Maker and NME. We would skip eating lunch so's we could buy these papers every week, enraptured by the fuse going on in England at the time scheming to make it happen for us in Los Angeles.

Tommy's plans worked out quite impressively, but when I was booted out of the resulting candy bar band (the Screamers) in Los Angeles mid-1977, it occurred to me that the life of a record pimp would probably be more appropriate for my personality, than wanna be rock star.

The Screamers were the dinosaur link between 70's glam rock and art noise. Both of which, of course, would eventually be recognized as patently overrated and commercially useless, however, the drummer KK Barrett became a confidante of mine. After my deforestation from the drag band, he put me in touch with some other Texas / Oklahoma migrants, one of which conveniently enough was a true genius with the recording tools of the era, Pat Garrett. KK and Pat walked the urine-smelling halls of art school and had many bands with names like "Crude Footwear", performing in the stairwells of their dormitories on the weekend.



They had not just conceptualized garage recording but had been doing it for some time. For example, "Let's Get Rid of N.Y." was recorded at home on an amateur 4-track deck. Pat recorded the different tracks in different rooms which I thought had impressive results. There were many other gems that I wanted to release, Dead Bob's "Did You Signal" wherein he taped a stopwatch to a microphone and voila, instant rhythm machine. But I digress.

Of course the atmosphere In Hollywood at the time was just like you might expect, with a bunch of jaded 22 year-olds, frantic post-glam posing etc., but these guys were refreshing compared to that very no b.-s., Black Randy, another person I met through Tomata, was on the other hand complete b.s. at time a professional video man, which was rare. So there I had my merry band of record executives.

The name Dangerhouse came from the little boys that lived next door to me in Eastlake in early 1977. They were delighted, yet terrified by my roommates, two record collector brothers with interesting behavior. The day the older, more massive brother started crunching the hood of his sibling's 63 Dart with a hammer the Kitzels all ran away screaming "Dangerhouse!, Dangerhouse!". Boy did they have that right. So we had a name and almost instantly Pat found an eight track studio in East Hollywood to his liking, a very copasetic place called the Kitchen Sync (geddit) Pat could create a killer 45 and flip for under $300. Black Randy's first single cost $30 his album $1,000. Was I in heaven, the concept was to make as much noise as cheaply as possible.

Packaging was an issue, the 45 was king in those days (always will be) but the printed sleeve we grown up with proven to make records sooo collectible turned out to be prohibitively expensive for the kind of flash development we wanted to do. The printing of fairly drab three color sleeves cost as much as the 45's production costs put together. Full color would break you for life in those days. So I came up with the idea of custom printing an 11" (or for fab-oo singles full 14") piece of paper folding it around the record and slipping the sandwich into a reasonably snug 7 1/4 plastic bag and slicing the results off at the nub. Looked o.k., cost 10-20% of a commercially done sleeve like the one of the majors might have done. Suddenly this was the norm for every small label. (Bomp continued to get expensive custom sleeves but went b-b-bankrupt in 1979. Hmmm, Maybe we were on to something?)

So right away we were originals on two fronts, the packaging and the idea that you could have a garage label that didn't pretend to be a big important label (a la Stiff, Radar, all the rest of them). We had no pretensions of being like those people or ever wanting to be (still don't can you imagine how fucking horrible it would be to work for say Warner Bros. Records today?) So please forgive me if this sounds egotistical but Dangerhouse is the first label to really try to promote loud, noisy production values in the States (of course they have been doing it in England all along) Listen to the NY Dolls, the Ramones first album and even the early Damned and Pistols releases, they were dreadfully recorded in the first place, and then woefully underulated in the original vinyl releases. On the other mod- Dangerhouse productions may not have been commer- cial- ly polished, but was intended to bring out the aspects of live punk rock performances which was most exciting and enjoyable, the guitar and hopefully the way the bass and bass drum hit you in the chest. I would go in and bribe the mastering engineers into deliberately cutting the masters as hot as they could possibly be cut without the tone arm flying up out of the groove at playback time. All this would be considerably more pride to me had the CD revolution (devolution) not wasted all those years of research and development. CD's like the sassy Scottish sheep, are clones, not true reproduction. The so called "clarity" of digital sound has turned punk and other great forms of music into unlistenable mush. Then you see a complete fucking clown like recording engineer Bill Inglot, who butchered the Dangerhouse reissue on Rhino, getting a Grammy award for his abysmal rape of analog music. For shame! No wonder there hasn't been any decent recorded music for fifteen years....

So we schemed to put out a quick succession of singles based around projects: the Randoms were Pat's home projects, Black Randy's Metrosquad were our house band. Pat also played drums for the commie-rat Dils (did I mention he could play all rock instruments equally well) and the Avengers were friends of mine by way of the Screamers. They were the first real act we had and extremely exciting performers. We could not lose with this first batch of singles..... at this point I realize I'm babbling and I stop. See Dangerhouse Vol 1 liner notes (I had more and better brain cells when writing that 8 years ago)."

Small and independent labels are no longer uncommon. They are everywhere today, but lest we forget, the homage due some of the pioneering great labels such as

New Hormones, Stiff, and Dangerhouse. Dangerhouse represents a time and place that comes and goes in Punk Rock. Small pockets of time that is ageless and priceless. A snapshot, if you will, of what was a truly an exciting time. The very fragile essence of Punk Rock stays pure too very briefly. Lets hope that people like Dave Brown and Dangerhouse will always have the proper amount of lunacy to leave us with some sort of record of the insanity. Oh yeah, I still think CD's suck.

MRR: Do you still keep in touch with anyone from the Dangerhouse days?

DB: Anyone I haven't bored out of commission. Joe Nanini is still my best bud. KK Barret and his fab spouse Trudy, always. A smattering of other folks included people I recruited for the Bohica CD. To tell you the truth a lot of the best are dead-but Rick Wilder is still alive (why?)

MRR: Several people who played on Dangerhouse release, went on to meet with a good deal of success, have you felt the backlash of this at all?

DB: This sounds hopelessly B.S... but I wish all the Dangerhouse bands and musicians a like all the best they can manage.

MRR: Tell about some of the coolest people you had to deal with.

DB: Again, don't take my word for it, but the geeks who worked at the various pressing plant, mastering labs, recording studios... they were the coolest by far because for the most part they were so happy to be doing my work, instead of the usual crap. Since they saw so much of the business parade before them, they were (to my way of thinking) objective.

MRR: Biggest asshole?

DB: All of the petty managers who promised the punkers a great wealth and popularity like John Ingham e.g. Geza X. Endless speed freak theories about taking over the world with Hitlerian ear-exploding low frequencies and other half baked concepts. Assume he is back jo'-ing to soft core pornography in the abandoned ice cream truck in Ben Lomon CA that he was discovered in...

MRR: What were some of the biggest problems you had to deal with, while running the label?

DB: The most brilliant creative souls are the hardest to work with. Black randy had multiple drug, alcoholism and health problems which kept him from achieving 10% of his potential. Other than that (again in the Pollyanna within me) problems=challenges requiring creativity.

MRR: Did you ever get so frustrated that you felt like giving up?

DB: No, I'm thinking right now of how much fun the whole experience was. There were unreasonable expectations at times, but even then my approach was: who cares?

MRR: What kept you going?

DB: Narcissism, megavitamins, and prayer.

MRR: Can you offer advice to someone interested in starting a label?

DB: Don't unless you got a setup, like the little prick who runs Spin magazine for example.

MRR: Is it possible to get the Dangerhouse catalog anymore, after all now is the time for everything punk to be reissued to the market place?

DB: Yes. Frontier's sampler reissues are still in stores. as is Sympathy for the Record Industry's Black Randy reissue.

MRR: What were the circumstances that led to Dangerhouse's demise?

DB: The word got out that I was screwing people unmercifully out of their millions in royalties. Now that we see the "alternative" (gag) too fucking bad for them.

MRR: any possibilities of starting Dangerhouse back up?

DB: Context is gone and I'm a middle-aged dinosaur.

MRR: So what are you up to lately?

DB: I write software for hospitals. Think of that the next time you are cut open on the slab. Maybe I fucked up.....

MRR: Lately, I find myself frequently saying things like "the pistols did not sound like the Damned. the Dickies not like Thunders, and so on. Dangerhouse bands all sound - great and unique, how do you think that compares with current bands and labels?

DB: Why trash the sincere young losers of today just because they have no originality or vision. Just the money lust for a lucrative contract hey will never get (or if they do it will destroy their creativity and worthwhile aspects just like Green Day).

MRR: Do you have any favorite Dangerhouse re- leases that you still listen to everyday?

DB: I love the Alleycats, maybe because they were my first production and actually wrote songs with lyrics. I still listen to that a lot, but not everyday. Also Howard Werth and the Eyes fabulous TAQN. Thanks to Bill Inglot of Rhino for FUCKING UP the whole reissue and placing the wrong tracks on the CD.

MRR: What are your most favorite memories from the Danngerhouse days?

DB: The live show, the spontaneity and the naivete of the original scene....before everybody started believing in their crappy non existent careers. Also Dave Wiley of the Consumers R.I.P 1986. The one band I would have donated organs to be allowed to record. Any ex-Consumers like Dave Precious etc.. (or Joe Ramirez of Eyes) reading this please write me at 300 Queen Ave N. #257 Seattle WA 98109.

MRR: How were the early projects financed?

DB: We all had various day jobs. I earned $5.00 an hour for hideous aerospace companies. Pat was am apprentice helicopter engineer, Black Randy was (ahead of his time) a video cameraman. Between us we made $60K a year. Fuck the rent Fuck the bills we have records to produce.

MRR: Explain a typical arrangement you would make with a band.

DB: Naive ones which were largely handshakes for the most part. I was actually sued a couple of years ago over the Avengers for $300K in federal court by the splendid fellow who owns CD Records. Dave Ferguson. What a guy, in any case the idea was that we would put up the money for production, the band would supply the material, after production costs were met we'd split the dough. I got free advertising in Slash Magazine because I was their typesetter. Well usually the band would break up before the record could be released (even. then it was really hard to sell anything by unknown bands who had broken up thanks Deadbeats, thanks Bags, Etc.) So my take was, if we make nothing (from selling 800 copies) tough, It generated publicity and attention that money spent any other way could not buy! To this day I insist that most of these bands would have been even more trivial footnotes to rock history then they already are had they not made those Dangerhouse records which did have our unique pro-

ductions stamp on them. You could see a band double or triple its squirming leaping attendance at shows as a direct result of making a record. Suddenly they go from #3 band to opening on an off night. So I thought if people can't appreciate Dangerhouse and what it can do with almost no money and good ideas, Fuck 'em (so you can imagine my reputation was really great). As if any of us had ever made a dime from it. So between my fuck you attitude about it, and the fact that all the bands in the early 80's were yabba yabba yabba dickhead Nazi surfer drones from Orange County (some of whom are god help us still around) consequently I lost all interest in recording punk rock bands permanently.

MRR: Well I really enjoyed talking with you, leave us with your favorite moment in relationship with Dangerhouse.

DB: Black Randy and Metrosquad was invited to play at the ultra trendy Mudd Club in August 1979. Somehow Randy conned Steve Maas, the owner, to front us airplane tickets and put us up at his "suite at the Chelsea". (It should be noted that Black Randy sold pens from a ballroom for a living and was very good at charming almost any potential victim). Randy, Nanini, Hughes and myself discussed this at length after the arrangements were made and decided we did not like the onanistic aspects of the NY club scene at the time; the Mudd Club was part-owned by the emollient Steve Rubbell. Getting inside for someone like Generic or Dave Brown under normal circumstances would require walking behind a velveteen rope until the heavy metal bouncer deemed you socially worthy (or at the pre-irony Mudd Clubb, unworthy). So we decided to try and game what we could and make everyone real sorry we had been given all this cash up front and invited to town during a heat wave. Steve Mass' scuzzy apartment at the Chelsea was filled with the crap of some all-washed-up girlfriend who had taken a feminine powder, leaving the usual spoiled suburban kid debris behind..., Nanini and Black Randy would call Steve every couple of minutes to tell him "it stinks like a wolf pussy in here" (Richard Pryor?). We proceeded to throw just about everything we could find in the apartment in the trash (the clothes were evenly divided between Sal and St. Vincent de Paul collection bins). She returned only to be ridiculed by human attack dogs; clearly her plan to make Sal Maas contrite and give her money had been scrubbed and she left. We were getting all of Steve's money that week. Finally we moved out of SM's place and moved into various other hotels (at his further expense). At the club, we wasted no time breaking into the liquor cabinet and stealing the most expensive booze products that SM would stock (no qualms on this one because he frankly and obviously watered down before serving at $5-$6 per). Tom Hughes, who was 6'8" threatened several of the employees with bodily harm if they didn't stay completely out of the dressing room (they were happy to). Due to the acoustics of the club and the double time tempo we performed all songs at (Randy was experimenting with tree or four drug cocktails) a set would be over in under 20 minutes (show didn't even start at the Mudd Clubb until 3:330 a.m. anyway) NY audiences completely not getting "it" but standing there rilly rilly trying, not heckling like normal but sort of bovinely agape in their leather jackets. This was the best part for me. And so it went on for days SM looking ,ore disconsolate every day as we'd beg him for free drugs and extra cash payments. He perked up momentarily as the band prepared to leave. My brother (the announcer, he also does the Latin thing on Bohica) was late and we decided to go without him. He appeared just seconds after we pulled away, and barked at SM to give him cab fare to the airport fast. SM pulled $40 out of his wallet, gave it to him, at that moment (having circled around the block), I pulled over and picked my brother up so SM last memory of us is all laughing at him. I calculated later that SM has wasted over $3500 for this abuse. The warm feeling generated by our behavior inspired us the following year to behave the same way during the shooting of Lou Adler's "All Washed Up" (later "Ladies and Gentleman, the Fabulous Stains") culminating in the trashing of a luxury hotel in Vancouver after six beefy cheesehead punks were denied the free cocaine of Lou Adler's personal stash that Randy had promised them (Lou grabbed the mirror and ran into the bathroom locking the door). I left when the color Xerox machine went out the 13th floor. Then there was the doggie porn....anyway

Discography:

Avengers: We Are The One / I Believe In Me/ Car Crash

Dils: Class War/ Mr. Big

Black Randy: Trouble at the Cup/ Loner With a Boner/ Sperm Bank Baby

Randoms: ABCD / Lets Get Rid of NY

X: Adult Books / We're Desperate

Weirdos: We've Got the Neutron Bomb/ Solitary Confinement

Alleycats: Nothing Means Nothing Anymore/ Gimme a Little Pain

Deadbeats, Kill The Hippies/ Brainless/ Final ride

Black Randy: Idi Amin / I Wanna Be A Nark / I'm Black And I'm Proud

Yes LA: (Compilation LP)

Howard Werth & the Werthless: Obsolete / Mango Man

Bags: Survive / Babylonian Gargon

Black Randy: I Slept In An Arcade / Give It Up Or Turn It Loose

Eyes: TAQN / Topological Lies

Black Randy & Metrosquade: LP

Rhino 39: Prlixin Stomp / No Compromise

Most of these singles are are on Frontier Record's reissues, Dangerhouse Vols 1 and 2. The Black Randy LP was reissued on Sympathy for the Record Industry (includes bonus tracks). Either find the originals or pick up the reissues, either way some great fucking music.

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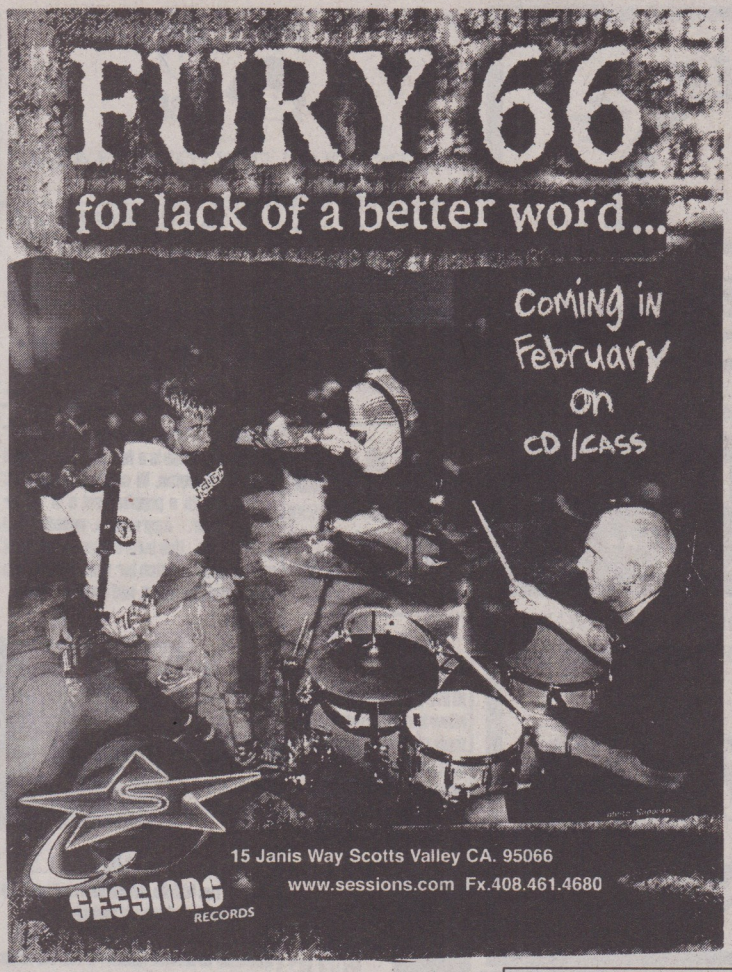

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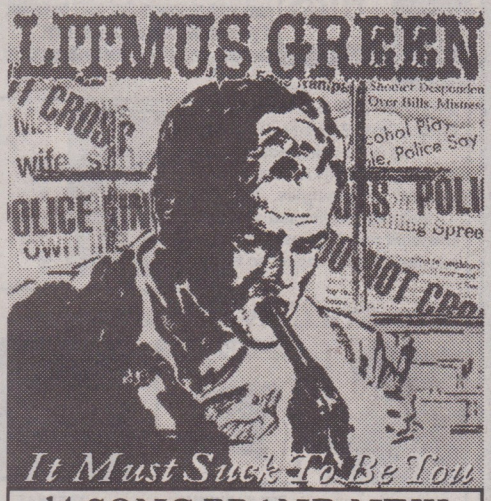

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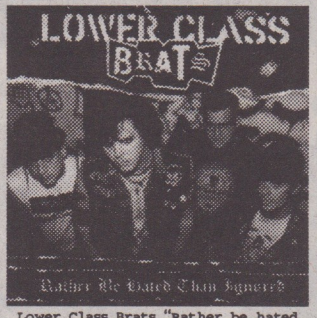

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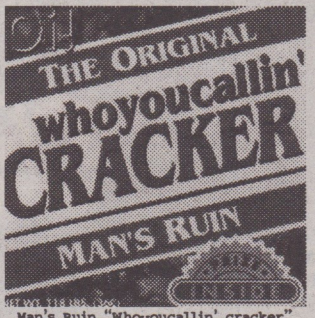

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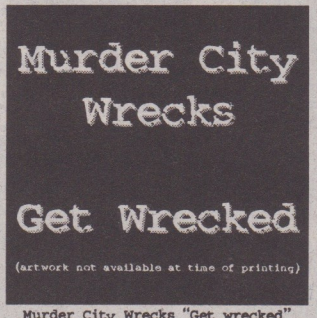

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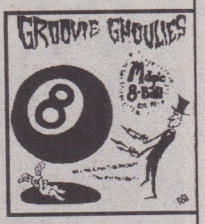

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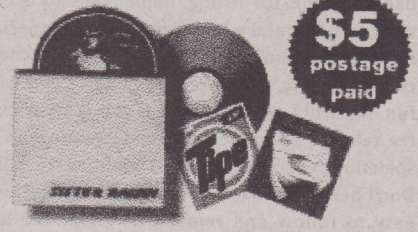

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MRR BOOK REVIEWS

A Hand in the Bush: The Fine Art of Vaginal Fisting • Deborah Addington
102 pages • $11.95
Greenery Press • 3739 Balboa Avenue • #195 • San Francisco • CA • 94141

"How-to's" and reference guides are a dime a dozen. Nowadays, you can find one on just about every topic imaginable. But once in a while, a book comes along, about an intriguing and under represented topic, that is straightforward, funny, profane, intelligent and refreshingly honest. And if you're really lucky, with a lot of detailed illustrations. Well, today must be my lucky day cuz, *A Hand in the Bush*, is everything a sex manual should be and more. Comprehensive, well researched facts mingled with personal anecdotes and stories; providing practical information yet still manages to capture the author's pleasure and passion for the topic; with a full spectrum of knowledge starting with all the basic fundamentals but addressing advanced topics for the more practiced and/or adventurous readers. And, of course, no sex manual would be complete without the obligatory gateway resources guide for those who wish to learn more.

This latest release from Greenery Press is the first and only reference guide for the fine art of vaginal fisting, "The intimate, potent sexual act of slowly, gradually inserting the entire hand into a cunt, curling it into a fist, and sending both the giver and the recipient to a fabulous place of sublime beauty and sensation." Since the publication of their first book, *The Sexually Dominant Woman: A Workbook for Nervous Beginners* in 1992, Greenery Press has set the standard for enjoyable, realistic and exciting reference guides on various aspects of consensual SM, DS and other forms of erotic power play.

Deborah Addington, first time author but experienced fister and fistee, does not disappoint as she explores in great detail the world of vaginal fisting, self-fisting, simultaneous fisting and the incorporation of fisting into SM scenes. It's full of recommendations on how to prepare for fisting, what fisting feels like, the steps for fisting, implements to use and implements that enhance, what to avoid, and ways to make fisting especially fun. Her writing style, much like the other authors at Greenery Press, is chatty and congenial without being condescending, extremely sex positive and witty to boot. "Fisting is fabulous fun. I heartily recommend it. If you think it's something that you might like to try, read on, or maybe even read it aloud with your partner(s). If it sounds like something everyone involved wants to try, talk about your ideas and go for it. Don't beat around the bush..." She gives useful tips that make her instructions easy to follow and remember. "Heat the lube in a bowl of warm water beforehand - a cold slimy jolt of goo between the legs is not the best way to get started." "Rather than trying to remember which side of my wrist is supposed to be part of the scenery of a certain position, I remind myself that my palm should be facing her belly, not her spine."

What I liked best was her absolute intensity and fervor toward the subject of fisting. Personal affirmations are dispersed throughout the pages, reminding us that she is not only the author but an active participant who sees vaginal fisting as a vital part of her sex life. To the question, what does it feel like, she answers:

"Fisting is an amazing, profound and utterly delicious experience. It can make the participants feel completely connected on an intensely intimate level. It's not just a sexual experience, it becomes a mental, emotional and even a spiritual one. It leaves you speechless, astounded, overwhelmed, breathless, and dizzy with pleasure. It feels like no other sexual act. As a fistee, I am filled. I am the tide and my waves are lapping at the shores of my lover. I feel powerful and acquiescent. I feel wondrous. As a fister, I am reverent and honored by my lover's acceptance of my presence so deeply inside her. I feel welcome, trusted and entirely embraced. I feel wondrous."

She's not instructing, she's sharing. She addresses the fears, myths, and rumors about fisting from the standpoint of someone who really knows. And as you read through the chapters "Fisting FAQ," "The Cunt Owner's manual," "The Anatomy Overview" and "The Fisting Adventure and Fisting & Safety" it's as though she's lying there right next to you, whispering in your ear and guiding your hands.

I remember as a child, ransacking the library and every bookstore in a town looking for informative books about sex. Not clinical, biological textbook-style sex books; useful sex books that got down to the real nitty-gritty. Like, I knew what masturbation was, but how exactly is it done? And is there one method preferred by experts or are they all about equal? The best I could find was a couple of *Kinsey Review* articles and an old tattered copy of *The Joy of Sex*. The non illustrated version... my hungry horny mind could have greatly benefited had I found *A Hand in the Bush* back then! Granted at that time, I was having trouble with the concept of tampons, let alone inserting a whole fist! Which, incidentally, is roughly the size of one's uterus. But ever since Susie Bright's *Susie Sexpert's Lesbian Sex World* first introduced me to the fine art of fist fucking, I have been more than ready. Unfortunately, the complete dearth of material written on the subject left me to wonder if the practice of vaginal fisting is not as wide spread, no pun intended... as I hoped. Thankfully, I was wrong. *A Hand in the Bush* starts where all other sex manuals leave off. Thorough, frank, humorous, and accessible, with candid illustrations; it has even been approved by three fisting positive physicians and many other experienced practitioners. Regardless of what you may think about the act of vaginal fisting personally, *A Hand in the Bush* is sure to make you smile. And perhaps, a whole lot more. — Catherine Cook

I Love Dick • Chris Kraus
275 pages • $8
Semiotext(e) • 522 Philosophy Hall • Columbia University • New York • NY • 10027

Valentine's Day. Later this evening I'm going to take up a friend's offer: free drinks for the loveless, the bitter, the jaded and cynical. It ought to be a pretty chaste arrangement. Plenty of tears in beer, the sad sacks mewling on about general misunderstandings in love. Perhaps at some point along the line a few of us will have so ingenuously rendered ourselves true pathetic heathens one or two of us might get laid (next day note: no one did.). Enter *I Love Dick*:

"Between 9:30 and 11:30 I tried your number four more times but hung up on your machine. At 1:45 am. I tried again, your line was busy. At 2:05 I called again and finally reached you At first your voice was cold, detached. You said you couldn't really talk, but then you did, you did..."

Now let your heart settle. Feminism has rarely been so evocative. The plaints are staggering, the narrative one long jeremiad coaxing Dick's unrequited love through addled love letters, long distance phone calls and unceremonious drives through desolate valleys of Southern California. You may find yourself rooting for Chris at certain debilitated moments, but, alas, she won't have it, confined as she is to her plight.

Everything shits the bed—her current independent film, her marriage, her nerves and, in fits, her health. The passion is admirable, but when Kraus begins to take the narrative into discussions on art and schizophrenia the book quickly loses steam. The story breaks down. Literary references take hold and run around in name-dropping stints at logic. Dick becomes unrecognizable and lost, the focus seeming to be the letters themselves—protracted things of fevered little dreams strung together on semblances of thought and ideas. Symbolic justifications are one thing but, shit, when a book starts out with two nascent freaks—i.e. husband and wife—writing deranged love letters to the reclusive Dick, you begin to wonder how much Kraus likes her tangents.

Dick becomes mere fodder for obsession. What started out as an experiment in emotion ("All letters are love letters") evolves into one long caveat. The problem? They fucked of course, and now honesty is relegated to stultified pains. The act itself has been so breathtakingly expected there is now no room for anything but Chris's lugubrious forays into the country or art galleries or other such broods in which our tragic hero attempts explication. As for Dick, well, he's the male correlative, aka the obligatory fucker, in this whole mess, the embodied angst against which Chris indefatigably tries to express herself both intellectually and

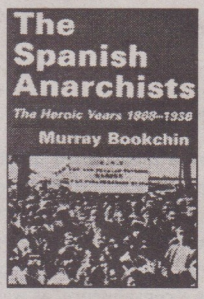
emotionally. And, jesus, does this get fucking boring.

Go ahead, Kraus, take your time. I don't mind. I just have to read this for a fucking review! What's the beef this time—dead junkies? (Correction: "brilliant" dead junkies.) How about some other folks only those in New York would know?! Rail on....

By the time the two meet up again, post coitus, the relationship has reached an entirely fucked up, over-analyzed lesson in how to face the obvious. In short: He doesn't want this. Oh well, I guess I have another 50(!) tangential pages of self-examination to go through. Rail on....

The fact of the matter is some people love this morose shit- myself included, it frees up the mind in its own inimitably charming way, but it's also arguing the same point in different ways. In this, Kraus in unflinching. — P.C. Simonelli

The Spanish Anarchists: The Heroic Years 1868-1936 • Murray Bookchin.
318 pages • $19.95
AK Press • POB 40682 • San Francisco • CA • 94140-0682
1936: The Spanish Revolution • The Ex
144 pages • $25
AK Press



Murray Bookchin, now in his seventies, was a labor activist as a teenager in his native Brooklyn. Like many young militants of his generation, Bookchin was a Marxist who had a romantic and pragmatic interest in the fortunes of the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939). Some of Bookchin's friends volunteered to fight in this conflict on behalf of the Republican Loyalist against the Conservatives and Fascists of General Franco, some to lose their lives on the Iberian Peninsula in those tense few years before the Second World War. Bookchin, who was fifteen when the war was in full swing, was too young to go and was not accepted as a volunteer. Bookchin did fight in the Second World War against a larger fascist enemy and with the GI Bill he was able to get a college education to supplement his mostly self-taught learning upon discharge.

In his "seminal history" (now in its third addition) Bookchin, as an old labor activist, seems to be trying to explain the importance of this period of time to younger counter-culturists, particularly those who emerged in the sixties and who would get in the habit of describing themselves as "anarchists." Bookchin who was distressed by the way in which these self-professed anarchists of the sixties pursued "largely personalistic ends: a self-centered often disorganized expression of an individual rebelliousness that left no lasting impact upon a movement that was direly in need of a serious ideology and libertarian forms of organization," only ended up in the same boring bourgeoisie lifestyles they once had been rebelling against. Bookchin makes a distinction between "lifestyle" anarchism and "libertarian organization" that would genuinely empower the world mass rather than further the self-interests of solipsistic escapists. This brings Bookchin back to Spain: "Spanish anarchism revealed how far proletarian socialism could press toward an ideal of freedom on moral premises alone." The heart of *The Spanish Anarchists* is centered around effective libertarian organization and just how the anarcho-syndicalists of Barcelona and Andalusia managed to get work done without believing in leaders, in being disciplined without needing cops.

The interest surrounding the Spanish Civil War for leftists around the world during the thirties—and this was in a time when the word "left" did not possess such an ambiguous meaning—is based on the political and economic background of the Spanish Civil War. For political radicals, intellectuals and labor militants, Spain was the testing ground to see whether or not the Bolshevik Revolution could be transplanted out of Russia and into Western Europe. The years leading up to the conflict were characterized by violence and bitter antagonisms with the conservative interests of the Catholic Church, the "constitutional monarchist" State and ruling classes on one hand and radicalized labor on the other, many Marxist and Anarchist ideas were put into practice in regions of the Iberian Penninusula. These weren't constructed as theoretical situations or trendy "social experiments" but as actual means of living, working and sustaining an economy based on the needs and requirements of everyone in the community rather than the rich or the impersonal market. The settings were whole communities, cities, factories and farms, the people involved were illiterate peasants, idealistic intellectuals and radicalized professionals who wanted a break from the oppressive past. Why the revolution failed and the western world capitulated to Franco and fascism is something that haunted political progressives in the years following. Why the Soviet Union and doctrinaire Marxists sabotaged the efforts of their Trotskyite and anarchist comrades, drowning the Republican cause in internecine conflict, rather than presenting a united front against Franco was also a troubling issue.

Researching the history of the times Bookhin went through a gradual conversion from Marxism to anarchism. In his definitive history he makes clear his reasons why. The Marxists, to Bookchin expressing the anarchist position, undermined rather than supported the social revolution. To the Stalinists who helped fight for the Republic, the anarchists were undisciplined, unruly and politically incorrect even if they had managed to realize, at least on a limited scale, the sort of classless, empowered proletarian society based on cooperation rather than coercion that Marx saw as the ultimate goal of revolution. The uncompromising CNT (*Confederacion Nacional del Trabajo*, or National Confederation of Labor) and it's companion organization the FAI (*Federacion Anarquista Iberia* or Iberian Anarchist Federation) had created a huge base of organizational infrastructure among the working classes throughout Spain in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. They had educated workers, regardless of sex or class, on how to claim ownership of their own labor and the fruits thereof. Both organizations had kept themselves as non-bureaucratic as possible, encouraging decision making "from below." Last of all they adhered to Mikhail Bakunin's fundamental disagreement with Marx on how to conduct a revolution. While Marx believed that a dictatorship of the proletariat, using politics to maintain control of state power until the dissolution of class and private property had been established was a necessary step to take, Bakunin thought that State power was inherently oppressive and divisive and inherently corrupting. Accordingly Bakunin argued that human society should be as apolitical as possible and organized around communities. Bakunin, and his acolytes in Spain, were not nostalgic for the Stone Age (and this is something that is greatly misunderstood about Anarchism by people such as the self-described "anarchist" and technophobic Unabomber). He believed in technology and industry, but technology and industry for human empowerment, not human oppression and alienation. Accordingly many of the pathetically poor textile factory workers of industrial Barcelona found a natural sympathy for anarchist ideas as they were presented to them by Bakunin's Iberian followers such as Anselmo Lorenzo and associations of anarchists who spread the word from Madrid and Barcelona to the provinces.

Bookchin traces the often obscure history of Spanish anarchism from its arrival in the form of Giuseppi Fanelli to Madrid and Barcelona in 1868, to small peasant uprisings in the rural Andalusia (where a small minority owned most of the land and the landless peasants or *braceros* worked for pittance or starved, sometimes both), to the emergence of anarcho-syndicalism and finally the consolidation of the CNT in 1910 and the turbulent, violent years that lead to the Civil War. He examines the different strains of thought in Spanish Anarchists as well as their methodologies. Some anarchists were against violence, some practiced *atentados* or "propaganda by deed" which was a euphemism for terrorism, assassination or bank robbery to support the revolution, deeds made understandable in light of the brutal repression that the military and government would inflict on strike organizers and intellectuals or anybody who dared question the status quo of Spanish parliamentarianism or (alternately) military dictatorships which were often supported by the church and the rich.

What is remarkable about the achievements of the anarchists is that they did remain remarkably well organized and accomplished a great deal without dogmatic principles or rigid hierarchies, indeed without demagogic leaders (people like Fermin Salvochea or Buenaventura Durutti were respected for their ability and heroism but they were never generals or presidents). When the miners of Asturias went on strike the CNT organized fleets of taxis to take their children to safety for no pay, even though the miners were communists and not anarchists

(the two groups were never on great terms even before the Civil War). In Barcelona the CNT organized crippling strikes in the face of all military oppression and won some concessions. When the military under Franco revolted in Morocco and launched the Civil War, the anarchists and workers kept Barcelona Republican and launched a remarkable social experiment that involved the collectivization of industry, trade and the elimination of the impersonal marketplace and emergence of an egalitarian militia (which obviously wasn't so effective). Everyone became a comrade. No bosses, no slaves, no whores, no masters. Everyone was just about equal until they were destroyed by Franco with his German and Italian allies and the unwillingness of bureaucratic Stalinists to tolerate the anarchists unwillingness to sacrifice community-centrism for hierarchical party concerns and power politics.

What is left of the Spanish Anarchists legacy, according to Bookchin, is their example. Bookchin sees their tragic experiment as the last great proletarian revolt that led to true emancipation in a trajectory that started with the Paris Commune of 1848. By their rejection of electoral process and state structure for direct action by workers, peasants and the disempowered, Bookchin sees a way of avoiding the "loyal opposition" compromises that have defanged American and European labor unions and by creating humanistic non-authoritarian structures, Bookchin sees the anarchists as having been instrumental in laying blueprints for a not yet still-born non-authoritarian world.

A good companion to Bookchin's history of the CNT and FAI is the beautiful hardcover reissue (originally released in 1986) of 1936: The Spanish Revolution. The book is a collection photos of anarchist/socialist Barcelona and Republican Spain during the time of the Spanish Civil War. Many of these photos have never been published before as they were ferreted out of Spain after the Fascist victory and hidden in Holland for a number of decades. Looking at this books one is greatly impressed with what the radical workers of Barcelona were able to come up with, including sedans which were converted into homemade tanks (to be used against Nazi panzers). The text is in both Spanish and English which gives a sense of the era as well as parallels between modern conflicts and those of yesterday. The book is put together by The Ex, a longtime Dutch anarchist band, and include 2 3" CDs (the original came with two vinyl 7"EPs) of the group doing Spanish folk songs. — Joe Donohoe

A Firing Offense • George P. Pelecanos
216 pages • $12.99
Serpent's Tail • 180 Varick Street • 10th Floor • New York • NY • 10014

This book is from Serpent's Tail's Mask Noir series, so it follows that the story is about a private detective who drinks a lot. Unlike the usual idea of a detective noir book, this takes place in the present. All the scenes, the characters, and the bits of daily culture are very familiar. This was one of the several problems I had with this book, because not only are current mainstream references employed, but punk ones, due to our hero being somewhat of an ex-punk alternative hipster type. I'm sure there are thousands of people in this country who grew up on the fringes of the punk scene and have a shared history with a lot of the bands involved, but punk really has nothing to do with this story and references to it come off in the smarmy "I was in on it too" kind of way, which have been endless since Rolling Stone proclaimed punk an important part of rock history.

Our hero, Nick, starts off not as a detective but an ad copy man for some sleazy appliance store. He is approached by an old man who is looking for his grandson, an ex-employee of the company. Concerned that he may be involved in something illegal, the old man is afraid to go to the police and asks Nick if he will try to find the grandson. Although I didn't understand why, Nick agrees, and asks to be transferred to his old job of salesman for a while, hoping to have more freedom to work on the case. As I alluded, this is a lot of inconvenience for Nick to take on and we never get much to make it believable that he would do such a thing.

Back in his old salesman job we get to meet some of Nick's old friends who work the appliance sales floor between bong hits and cans of Colt 45. (The drinking and drug use, while gratuitous is pretty amusing.) Nick starts looking for the missing grandson starting with the crowd he was last running with. Unfortunately for us, this happens to be a group of skinheads. I have never thought skinheads were interesting, (not just the racist ones—all of them) and am very tired of the mainstreams fascination with them, which is what I suspect they are here.

The clues begin to surface, the plot thickens, things get dangerous. The story actually does begin to roll and I was sucked in, even with the many things that annoyed me along the way. One example of this; several times it's mentioned that Nick is 30 but he seems more like 45. At one point he is telling us about his ex-wife, and how he met her at some punk club in 79 or 80... well, I'm 30, and in 1980 I turned 13. This kind of inconsistency may seem trifling, but my point is whenever it comes up, or something like the author referring to The Minutemen as "post-punk," it just stops the story cold, ruining any momentum, which, as I said, this book actually does generate at times.

I suppose if someone wrote a story about the punk scene or the underground it could certainly be entertaining enough, but when these scenes are used as a backdrop simply because people think they are "hip" or whatever, it's pretty boring. I'm a well rounded enough person that I can "relate" without having to hear buzzwords from my generation. Pelecanos is a pretty good writer, he should just stick to it and leave the name dropping to MTV. — Gardner Fusuhara

Making Punk A Threat Again: Profane Existence: Best Cuts 1989-1993
Edited by Dan
138 pages • $10
Loin Cloth Press/Profane Existence • POB 8722 • Minneapolis • MN • 55408

1989 was a pivotal year for anarchism in the United States. Class War in the UK was doing an excellent if short lived job kicking ruling class ass, and their inspiring example was part of the impetus for US anarchists to try and get their shit together. The Continental Anarchist Gathering in San Francisco of that year was a consequence, as was the publishing of Profane Existence and later Love and Rage. Neither publication matched Class War's combination of astute street-wise analysis, brawling working class attitude, punk aesthetics and outrageous sense of humor, though the Profane Existence collective came closest. The book, Making Punk A Threat Again, compiles much of the political writings from the Profane Existence 'zine from 1989 through 1993.

The folks at Profane Existence can probably guess my political criticisms of their book. Their anarchism is extremely weak on class analysis, substituting for it radical feminism, combative anti-racism/anti-fascism and militant animal liberationism, all three of which distract people from targeting the main enemy—the power of capital. Surprisingly, they're also feeble on a classic anarchist analysis of state power and without the underlying coherence of either anti-statism or anti-capitalism, their anarchism becomes a nebulous grab bag of trendy anti-authoritarian political odds-and-ends tossed together almost randomly and mixed with plenty of alcohol. Their faith in the potential of counterculture as a revolutionary force is misplaced due to their inadequate grasp of counterhegemonic culture, their belief in the power of ideas is almost quaint if it weren't so ahistorical, and their presentation of those ideas is frequently sterile and academic. Aside from the animal rights issues and an emphasis upon "fucking shit up," Profane Existence's anarcho-punk politics of 1993 differs little from the anarcho-hippie politics prevalent in 1973.

Harsh to say the least, and it hardly does justice to why I appreciate Profane Existence. First and foremost, there's their gut-level outrage and violence against existing realities with which I wholeheartedly identify. This, plus their wonderfully crass sense of humor (to another pages-long Marxist diatribe against their "petty bourgeois politics" PE responded "whatever") and proud drunk punk attitude go a long way toward ameliorating their stultifying lectures on anarchism in the actual 'zine. The book however, by separating the collective's politics from the rest of their printed expression, unfortunately accents the kinda boring way they talk about collectives, federalism, propaganda, youth culture, women's space and other aspects of their punk anarchism. The book does contain Felix von Havoc's essay on firearms (though only one of the accompanying hilarious pictures of punks with

MRR BOOK REVIEWS

guns) and the infamous anti-Operation Rescue poster as well as a few other nuggets.

Second, the PE collective exemplifies the organizing power of collectives (central in their as well as my own politics) through daily practice sustained over years. Dan's "Prologue November 1997" mentions that the collective had 9 members before its partial collapse in 1993; not a whole lot of people when you consider Profane Existence's impact through its 'zine, musical projects and community involvement. I may disagree with their politics, but I laud their ability to put those politics into practice through an autonomous collective structure.

Finally, it's obvious from Making Punk A Threat Again that the PE collective exists within a broader anti-authoritarian community and more diverse punk scene in the Twin Cities area. This gives the book roots and we can see the PE folks organically situated in a broader social context. The Twin Cities Anarchist Federation and the Emma Center for instance are both covered from their trumpeted founding to their ignoble demise. Whatever can be said about Profane Existence's politics, they're commendably neither armchair nor isolated. Even though I've got some issues with calling punk a community, clearly the PE collective work in their community much as the SF Diggers and NY Motherfuckers did in theirs.

I do have a comment to offer Profane Existence, not as the ever critical "Lefty" Hooligan, but as someone who's lived through and participated in two periods of politicized counterculture—anarcho-hippie and anarcho-punk. Again in his "Prologue," Dan sketches out the political argument that, with other factors, temporarily broke Profane Existence in 1993: "The first [camp] wanted to keep the collective's original goal on focusing equal amounts of energy on both political activism and coverage of D.I.Y. anarcho-punk within the zine. The other camp wanted to abandon coverage of punk rock in favor of making Profane Existence a dedicated political newspaper." I suggest that this "contradiction" between seeing punk as a "political movement" vs. seeing it as an "ideological ghetto" is based on a false dichotomy.

It's quite possible for punk to be both. Let's imagine that the present PE collective actually succeeds in politicizing 85-90% of the punk scene and in "making punk a threat again." What's that? Maybe 2-3% of youth in the US, 5% if we're extremely liberal with our definition of punk. More in places like England and Germany. Much less for youth worldwide. Granted in the US that's far larger than, say the Black Panther Party's following at its height, but it's not nearly big enough for the US to be unable to easily crush with the police, FBI, CIA and military. Punk might very well become a political threat, but unless its politics become more than merely those of a punk movement, punk will remain (sorry Ian) just a minor threat. — "Lefty" Hooligan

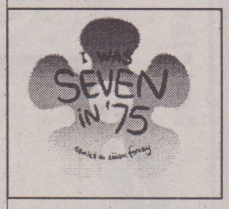
Various: A Guide To Independent Label Compilations • George Mcduffie
150 pages • $14
PO Box 146 • Brockport • NY • 14410

Tough to review a dictionary, ya know?

Well, some psycho has taken it upon himself to list every sorry-ass compilation LP that was excreted between 1976 and 1996 and I for one couldn't be more gleeful. I think I must be the only other nut who actually holds compilations in some kinda regard these days. There's so many of the damn things that the whole concept has been degraded almost past redemption, and the CD can be directly blamed for that sorry state. This book only lists the vinyl that was released during this time span, which thankfully removes most of the contaminating 'product' from consideration. Most of the compilations that will immediately spring to mind you'll find listed here complete with collector-oriented pressing differences and general commentary on the type of bands. All very good, but the only illustrations are on the front and back cover which makes this slightly less interesting to flip through than the phone book.

Compilations always receive short shrift from a lot of record buyers, but digging through the used bins to find an early track by a fave band or an alternate take of a song you have stuck in your brain for eternity is a sign of true fandom, and I salute this book's existence as a means to serve that pathetic drive. As an end note, the book does not include a fucking price guide... hallelujah! — Ryan Wells

Crust • Rick Pinchera
44 pages • $3
Top Shelf Productions • POB 15125 • Portland • OR • 97293
I Was Seven In '75 • Ellen Forney
64 pages • $6.95
Tchotchke Productions • POB 23368 • Seattle • WA • 98102



Each of these comic books is made by an artist with a weekly spot in a paper up North—Pinchera in the Willamette Week, and Forney in Seattle's The Stranger. One I had never heard of, and was suspicious of from the beginning; the other came with glowing recommendations and a booby trap.

Though it is a substantial publication, Rick Pinchera's Crust is filled with one-pagers, rather than a long and involved narrative. Pinchera's main protagonist is a slouchy kid with eyes completely hidden under a slack brow; a cynical soul with a bunch of sociopathic, neurotic friends. Their sneering wit takes aim at the burning issues of our times—the tobacco lobby, the Internet, "selling out," and lactose intolerance, for example. The drawing style is quite good; sparse and with a lot of white space—not over-noodled.

Taken individually, some of the comics seemed preachy at first. Maybe that's because the ones about Joe Camel appear early in the book. I thought, "Uh oh, another earnest young man taking Society to task..." But as the panels progress, they are clearly not self righteous. As a matter of fact, the self-righteous are also lampooned, like in the piece where a band member humorlessly defends his cred in the event of a sold out show. In another, and perhaps my favorite, the alien origins of the hippie drum circle makes a hideously funny punch line.

The strength of Pinchera's comics is what makes them hard to describe. You really have to see them. The pieces are organized around a visual as well as literary humor. Pinchera has perfected the one-pager. While longer than the single frame of, say, The Far Side, these pieces rely on an extreme economy of words and pictures in order to work and be funny. Pinchera's timing is flawless, and the strips involving black market beef and rotary vs. dial phone prove the point.

Ellen Forney's comic, I was Seven In 75, is a book I had seen around. I've read favorable reviews of it in various publications, so I was looking forward to it. I'm almost the same age as Forney, so I figured I'd recognize the references.

This turned out to be true, but unfortunately so. I found myself unimpressed by the exhaustive compiling of minutiae from the decade. Whole page drawings with the little arrows and parenthetical notations for "toe socks," "mirrored ceiling," "waterbed," etc. Big deal! I can remember people sitting around talking about passé seventies stuff in, like, 1981. With the current seventies retro groove abounding in all parts of consumer culture, it's no longer enough to just recreate the setting, as fully half of Forney's booklet does.

When there is finally some story, the comic gets pretty good. The annoying and gratuitous almanac stylings are beaten down to a blissful minimum, and the two noteworthy tales are the family's trip to a nudist camp and the baby sitter getting caught with pot she pinched from the Forney family stash. The drawing style, which starts out Phoebe Gloeckner-styled and detaily in the beginning, flattens out to a more Girl Hero look as the comic progresses. But the stories never really resonate, for me. They are guarded, superficial, and unemotional. And not even really humorous. I couldn't even force myself to be interested, in the pre-pubescent Forney or her family.

Even as lukewarm as I am about Seven In 75, I am still excited that people are publishing their own comics this way. Both of these publications are about quarter-page sized, and printed on good paper, and the Crust cover is a beautiful 3 color silkscreen. Fanzine people have been making forays into the self-published book world for a while; hopefully this will catch on with comics artists, too. — Greta S.

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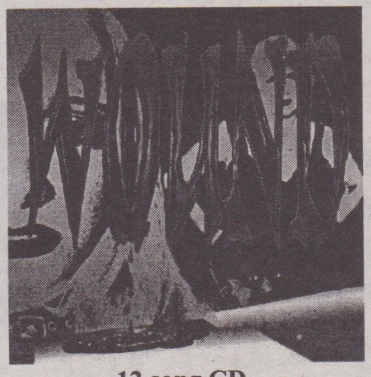

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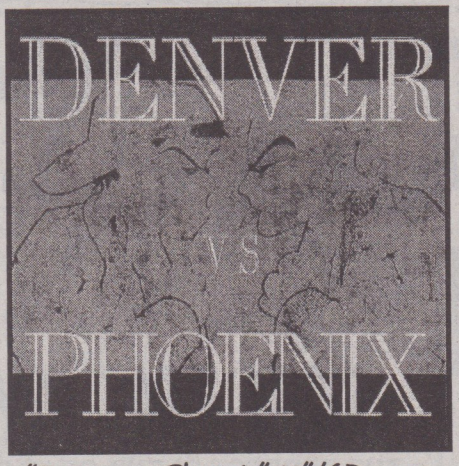

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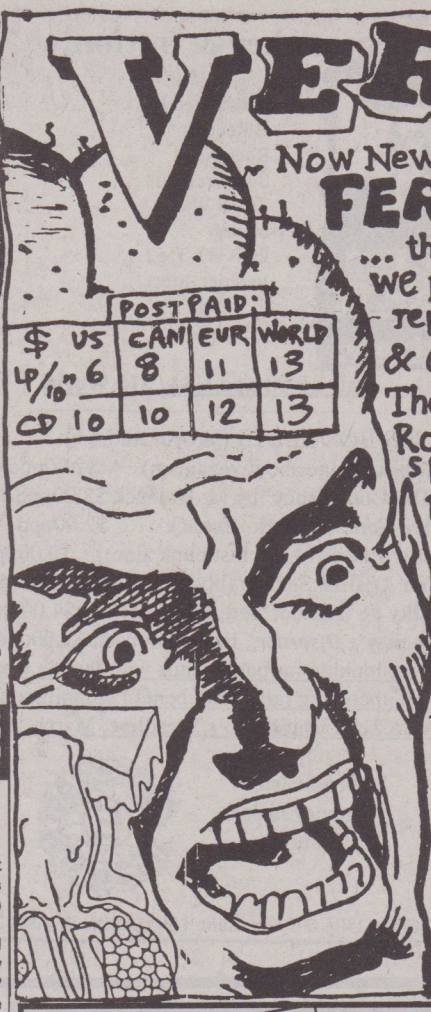

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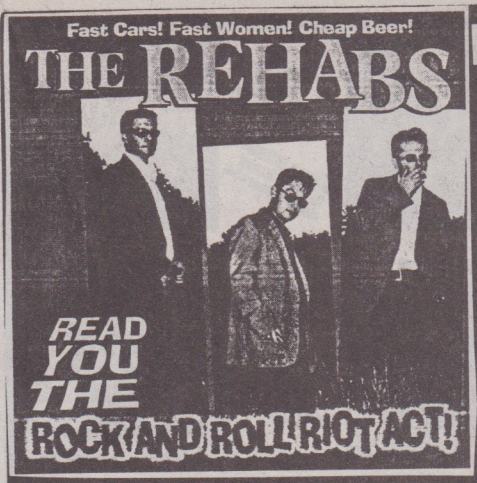

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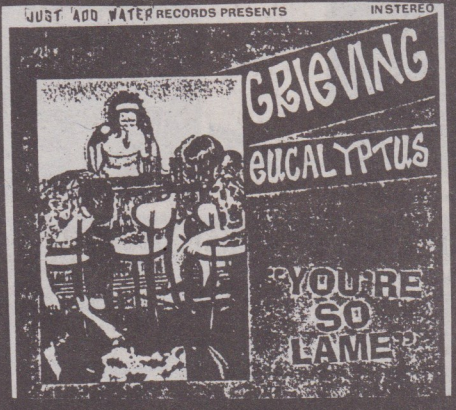

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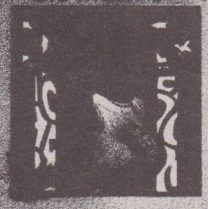

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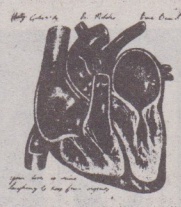

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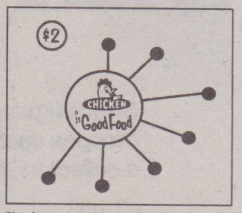

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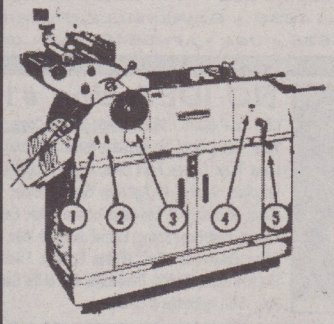

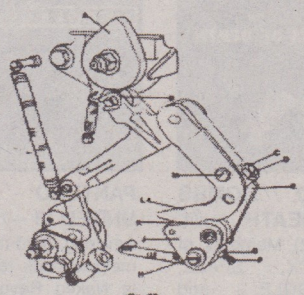

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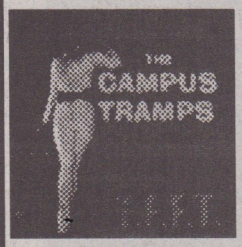

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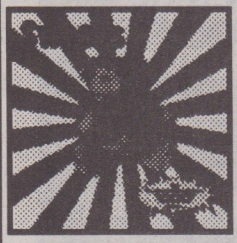

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THE PHANTOM RATS KISS ME NOW CD (CD115)

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ABUSO SONORO - "Ja Basta!!!" EP

This may be hard to get ahold of, but if you can you should. Brazilian punk that breaks down revolution. Hopeful, yet realistic vocals gruffly done by Beto and Elaine over furious and passionate HC with grind influences. (TJ)
(Angelo Bruno, CP 2098, Santos-SP, 11060-970, BRAZIL)

AGAINST ALL AUTHORITY - "All Fall Down" LP

I remember hearing a demo tape that I had picked up in Florida about a year ago that these ska punk guys had put out on a cassette tape. Theirs was the only demo that I ever held onto for more than a day without throwing out the window in frustration. This record shows the same kind of stuff that would keep you from throwing it up in the air for b.b. gun target practice. Fifteen songs that have enough variety to keep it interesting. Although pretty safe fare in the lyric department, the vocals drag your ass through a range of styles. (AA)
(Hopeless Records, PO Box 7495, Van Nuys, CA 91409-7495)

AGATHOCLES - "Minced Alive" 10"

Repress of their tracks from their split LP with AVERNO that came out a while ago. Kinda low on the track count for them - only four on one side and six on the other! Great stuff of course - 1992/1993 recordings, and includes my favorite song of theirs - "Kill Your Fucking Idols". Great if you don't have the split LP/CD these tracks are taken from. (TM)
(Bastard Records c/o Stan Jilek, Hradek 36, Hradek U Susice 341 41, CZECH REPUBLIC)

AGENT GLITTER - "Never Stopped Rockin'" EP

Now if I remember correctly, I reviewed these guys a while back on a split with FLEX LUTHER, no? I think I did. And I think I gave them a good review, no? If memory serves, I did. And this record deserves one as well. Compared to the above mentioned record, they haven't changed much. Except for maybe more gruff vocals and a better sound quality. These guys kinda sound like a poppier FIFTEEN, or... well... no, that says it pretty good. Check 'em out. You won't be disappointed, I promise. (AT)
(The Glitter Boys, 2229 Terrace View Dr. #1A, Sheboygan, WI 53081)

GG ALLIN AND THE MURDER JUNKIES - "Terror In America" LP

Why me? Ok, down to the nitty gritty. Do I really need to tell you what to expect from this 12 song live LP from the master himself? His live sets made him famous, but unfortunately (except for the avid fans and collectors) vinyl just can't smear shit on you the way the man could in person. There are some out there who might listen to this and think, "Ah, the good ol' days." (MW)
(Alive Records, PO Box 7112, Burbank, CA 91510)

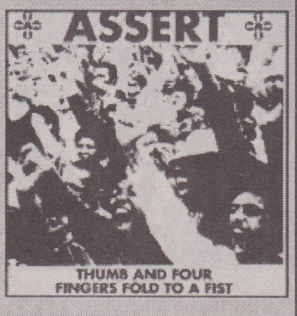
ANTI PRODUCT - "War On Nature" EP

ANTI PRODUCT owe a huge aesthetic debt to CRASS. Politically, this is irreproachable; sure, why not join philosophies that you agree with? But does it all have to *look* the same? On their own, ANTI PRODUCT songs are a powerful, grindy mix of growly and shrill vocals, with strong angry lyrics, not unlike NAUSEA. One of the best songs is "To Serve and Protect," a fitting indictment of you know who. This EP picks up where their last year's "Dead Heroes" left off, but with even more voluminous liner notes. (GS)
(Tribal War Records, PO Box 20712, Tompkins Square Sta, New York, NY 10009)

AQUAVELVETS - "Thrill To The Velvet Throb" EP

Pretty straightforward 'garage' rock lacking the manic edge or inspired tunefulness to stick past its hurled fate against the record room wall. Covers of "Voices Green & Purple" and "7 & 7 Is". Very 'eh'. (RW)
(Velvetone Records, no address)

ASSERT - "Thumb And Four Fingers Fold To A Fist" EP



Yeah! This is metal grind core! I don't know how this passed through the iron fist, but I am glad I got it! Wow. A little bit of METALLICA and SEPULTURA influence going on here. ASSERT really mix different genres of music here. They have a hardcore funky thing going on, then they break out the fast hardcore grind riffs. There are some great breakdowns in one of the songs as well, experimentally weird sounding guitars, and slides! This rules! (LU)
(Household Name Records, PO Box 12286, London SW9 6FE,UK)

MUSIC REVIEWS

ARMITAGE SHANKS - "Cacophony Now" LP

Count me in as a confirmed SHANKS fan; at its best, their style of thick, aggressive, classic-style punk rock has all the rude fun and raw punk energy the genre offers. This live LP, recorded in a tin can, captures their riffy energy, but the combination of so-so material and a loose performance makes this only intermittently engaging. Like most of their output, it's best appreciated drunk. Below average. (SS)
(Damaged Goods, PO Box 671, London E17 6NF, UK)

ASSMEN - "Burgerbreath" EP

More goofy rock-n-roll punk stuff from the ASSMEN nicely packaged with a handsome full-color cow cover. No lyrics included, but it's easy to figure out dopey songs titled "Beer is Good Food", "Adjusting My Nuts", "Picking up the Soap" & "Burgerbreath". (HM)
($4 ppd: Intensive Scare Records, PO Box 640338, San Jose, CA 95164-0338)

AUGUST SPIES - "Deadbeat" EP

This band's music owes more to early '80s hardcore than to the oi sound they seemed most linked to spiritually. The vocals, however, are of the gruff variety, more akin to said community. Very energetic, but can't say I made much sense of the lyrics. It's almost like they were translated from some other language and something definitely got lost in the process. (TY)
(Rodent Popsickle Records, PO Box 335, Newton Center, MA 02159)

AVAIL - "Live At The Bottom Of The Hill In San Francisco" CD

Wow, AVAIL are amassing a lot of live releases lately. This set is pretty cool, mostly just because it is AVAIL, with all their infectious energy and heartfelt sing a longs. The quality is decent and I bet it was a great show to see. Unfortunately, it only partially translates to this recording. It was not their tightest show, by a long shot. It's a good disc, but I'll probably grab for the "Live At Kings Head Inn" 10" before this one for a soundtrack to jumping around the room like an idiot. (BG)
(Lookout Records)

BAD CHECKS - "High Dollar" CD

BAD CHECKS deliver a bluesy, rock-n-roll style of punk with occasional harmonica and slide guitar reminiscent of early GUN CLUB. Unfortunately, BAD CHECKS are capable of a few really slow bluesy dirges and a freeform tune with interjected verses which is the low point for this CD, but there's plenty of good rockin' to overshadow these 'artistic ventures'. (HM)
(Yep Roc Records, PO Box 4821, Chapel Hill, NC 27515)

BEN GRIM - "Knuckle Sandwich" EP

Even though these guys have a DOUGHBOYS or make that DEFTONES (for you youngsters) look, i.e.. dreads and go-tees, this is cool pop punk right up my alley. Along the ways of CRIMPSHRINE, WALKER and WESTON. Great stuff without a weak song in the batch. I hope they threw in a reviewer's copy cause I need this bad. (RL)
(Radio Kaos Records, 311 Edna St., Neenah, WI 54956)

BETTE DAVIS & THE BALCONETTES - "Celebrity Fuckers" EP

This record is so good it hurts to listen to it. These five Mancunians create a cool racket that sounds like an atonal cross between HUGGY BEAR and The FALL. Bonus points for screeching female vocals and raucous keyboard playing. (MM)
(Slampt, PO Box 54, Heaton, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE6 5YW, UK)

BLANKS '77 - "I Wanna Be A Punk" EP

This 7" contains two catchy tracks from their "Tanked And Pogoed" LP. "I Wanna Be A Punk", and their cover of THE PARTISANS' "I Never Need You," which rocks pretty hard. My ears are mighty tired from a rock-n-roll weekend, but these songs sound like the same recordings as the full length, both produced by Don Fury. So you might as well save up the extra few bucks and get the LP to enjoy more hits from these snotty punk rockers. (TJ)
(Radical Records, 77 Bleecker St., New York, NY 10012)

THE BLEEDERS - "I'm An American" EP

The title track sounds kinda oi-ish. Like a rock-n-roll DROPKICK MURPHYS. Only on the title track though. After that they start to veer off into more rockin' stuff. I wouldn't go so far as to say "Elvis meets Iggy", but something more along the lines of ROCKET FROM THE CRYPT meets MY 3 SCUM, or LOS INFERNOS. Definitely not psycho enough to be psychobilly, but definitely a good rockin' 'greaser punk' record that is well worth a spin or two. Or eight even. Limited pressing of 600, so buy it quick! (AT)
($4 ppd: Hostage Records, 7826 Seaglen Dr, Huntington Beach, CA 92648)

BLITZKRIEG BOP - "Top Of The Bops" CD

A 28-track comp from this UK 1977 band. Consisting of three singles, a cassette LP, and various other tracks this has its share of different versions of songs. Punk with a leaning toward new wave at times. Similar to VIBRATORS or EATER but not as strong. Worth it though if you weed through the weaker versions of songs. Some classic stuff some not and a must for collector geeks. (RL)
(Overground Records, PO Box 1NW, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE99 1NW, UK)

BLOOD - "Boots" EP

Whaddafuck? I guess somebody decided to give me crossover punk/metal poop here. The first song sounds like a rip of SOCIAL DISTORTION's "The Creeps" with lotsa guys chanting "Def Till Death"(??). And guitars which approach chunkachunka-ness *though not quite*. But the solo is *che' wanky* (as we say in the biz) and there's lots of undecipherable talk of graves 'n' shit. Yet another rock version of "Boots Are Made For Walking" with the classic rewrite "..something you call love, but I call *shit*" (italics mine) cause it's written from a shit lover's point of view. *These guys are friggen geniuses!* Okay, 'nuff said. (JY)
(Blind Beggar, Bosnstr 25, 56957 Eppenbrun, GERMANY)

MUSIC REVIEWS

BLUE COLLAR - "Force-4-Change" EP

Power to the working class! Raise a fist for the first release of BLUE COLLAR. Well put together HC without falling into the obvious. Variety without being self absorbed. Good listening on the way to your pathetic, menial job. (TJ)
(T.S.R. Records, 42557 Converse Rd., Antioch, IL 60002)

BONECRUSHER - "Angry Youth" EP

This rips all over the fuckin' place. Gnarly punk from SoCal that is similar to their last EP. It's a bit slower, but they still got that singer with the heavy, throat cancer vocals and tough, fight back lyrics. Word. (TB)
(Outsider Records, PO Box 92708, Long Beach, CA 90809)

BORIS THE SPRINKLER - "Mega Anal" LP

Just when I was ready to call BORIS THE SPRINKLER Wisconsin's greatest gift since Bud Selig, something amazing happened. BORIS THE SPRINKLER put out a damn fine LP. Unlike those Green Bay Packers, Rev. Norb & Co. showed they could deliver under pressure. Fast, well played punk suitable for all, even those who believe in domed stadiums or picture discs. (JF)
(Rhetoric Records, PO Box 82, Madison, WI 53701)

THE BROADWAYS - "Broken Stars" LP

With their somewhat predictable East Bay pop punk influenced sound, The BROADWAYS manage to break free of the pack of rehash uninspired clones with uniquely politically minded lyrics. A personal almost sentimental quality gives relevance to the lyrics freeing them from the realm of political abstraction where most bands trying to say something more get bogged down. Whether it's songs equating Thanksgiving with genocide or recounting police atrocities their approach gives a real, down to earth spin on the situation. The seemingly out of place pop music contrasts and ultimately compliments this quality well. The music for the most part has the "good times" feel of a FIFTEEN or J CHURCH with a Fat Records delivery. The only real down point is the lyrics sheet. With its run together text layout it's a bit hard to read without bifocals. Fortunately, the vocals are fairly clear and the moments of Mike Ness (SOCIAL DISTORTION) inflection don't garble away the straight forwardness of the lyrical content. (MK)
(Asian Man Records, PO Box 35585, Monte Sereno, CA 95030)

THE CAMPUS TRAMPS - "T.F.F.T." CD

Another cool guy, guitar rock and roll punk band obsessed with 50's images of sexy women. "T.F.F.T." includes the CAMPUS TRAMPS' "Demolition Derby" EP and continues their high energy rock and roll assault. Some lyrics are completely idiotic, but "T.F.F.T." is a solid release. (HM)
(1+2 Records, Clean Nishi-shinjuku, Nishi-shinjuku 7-5-6, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160, JAPAN)

C4 - "School Spirit" EP

This record was too monotonous for my tastes. This is standard punk with three chord guitar and a droning, almost dull singing. I don't know, perhaps it's got something to do with the mix, but it seems the singers voice could be a little more prominent, perhaps louder or something. The overall effect was one where all the instruments and vocals combine. Decide for yourself. (CW)
(1201 Craig Rd, Knoxville, TN 37919)

CHAOS UK - "Heard It, Seen It, Done It" LP

This is pretty fucking excellent. I've secretly followed everything this band has done over the past few years. While I still maintain that the best is the split with E.N.T., they've always been pretty solid about sticking to their guns musically and ideologically(???). Fourteen covers of what I assume are their favorite songs. The ones you expect to work the least are the greatest. Awesome reworkings of ALTERNATIVE T.V., P.I.L., the MOB and the USERS (which includes a sample of A.T.R.). Can you imagine Kaos singing an ELVIS COSTELLO song? Can you imagine a punk band with lead and rhythm drums? You must... (LH)
(Vinyl Japan, Hamada Bldg. 1F 4-7, 7-Chome, Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN)

CHICO'S ELECTRICOS - "Psychosound" CD

Heavy and slow, slow, slow. Rock and roll in the Seattle grunge vein of things. I keep thinking it should be on 45, but then I remember it's a CD. (CK)
(J. Barrios, Amorin 1439, 302 Montevideo, URUGUAY)

CHARLES BRONSON - "Youth Attack" LP

Crazy, over-the-top hardcore that everybody already fucking loves. Get your copy quick so you can laugh along to great songs like "Standing In Front Of Bulldog Records", "Marriage Can Suck It", "Close Encounters Of The Nerd Kind", and "The Only Time I Think Of Romance Is When I Wonder Why I Don't Think About It". These guys will be sorely missed! (RC)
($6 ppd: Martin Sorrondeguy, 2340 W 24th St, Chicago, IL 60608)

CHERRY BOMBS - "Bombs To You..." LP

Yep, sappy love songs are a universal punk language, as Brazil's CHERRY BOMBS can attest to. Whether it's songs about falling in or out of love, the CHERRY BOMBS cover it. Musically reminiscent of the likes of the UNDERTONES, with a dash of three part harmonies, the CHERRY BOMBS deliver a good, if not great, LP. (JF)
(Bagaco Records c/o Denoir Rosa, PO Box 825, Londrina-PR, 86001-970, BRAZIL)

THE CHINKEES - "Karaoke With The..."EP

This is exactly what it sounds like, a karaoke record with one side of vocals and music, and one with just music. It's all ska punk, which can be kind of annoying while at the same time one of the most hilarious things put out in a while. It comes with lyrics for you to sing along if you get drunk enough, and an address for you to send a recording of yourself howling like an asshole presumably so they can put together a compilation of ska loving idiots trying to slur together words to a bunch of circus music. Brilliant, I wish I would have thought of it!! (AA)
(Asian Man Records, PO Box 35585, Monte Sereno, CA 95030)

MUSIC REVIEWS

CHOKE - "Needless To Say" CD

CHOKE play a sharp, aggressive style of pop punk. It's pretty easily likable, overall. The lyrics are well thought out, the music is tight, and the vocals are good (if a bit whiny). The production is rock solid, also. A good release. (BG)
(Smallman Records, PO Box 352, RPO Corydon Ave, Winnipeg, MB, CANADA)

COCHE BOMBA - "Viva La Dereliccion" EP

France's COCHE BOMBA's overall style is really pissed, aggressive, fast hardcore, not unlike PANDEMONIUM from the mid-'80s. But underneath all that generalizing, are various styles and structures that make these guys stand out from the rest. Don't know why it's taken so long to be sent in for review, but, as with their 10" and split LP, this EP is highly recommended. (MW)
(Bad Card Records c/o Sylvain Vilette, 48 Rue du Potager, 91270 Vigneux Sur Seine, FRANCE)

COCKNEY REJECTS - "Greatest Hits Vol. IV" LP

This reminds me of the episode of that late seventies T.V. show "What's Happening", where the character Re-Run makes a bootleg recording of The Doobie Brothers and all that comes out on the tape is the sound of him eating popcorn. "How's that?", you ask? Well, this sounds like it was recorded by a skinhead with a tape recorder in their pocket as they pogoed around the club. The levels of the various instruments fade in and out, and at times you can't here the guitar at all. On top of that, it's of a show after they released "The Wild Things" LP. A terrible document of what once was a great band. (RM)
(E.B.I Records, no address)

CORRODED - "Virtual Reality" EP

This is a very impressive single. Late '70s sound, with enough hook to catch a barrel of fish. If someone said, "Hey, have you heard this classic band?", I would believe it was some killer English band that had got by me. Pick it up! (TG)
(Pelado Records, 521 W. Wilson #B202, Costa Mesa, CA 92627)

THE CRACK - "Wants You" 10"

Raspy guitars, medium tempos, vocals with a little bit of gravel (like a German Lee Ving), and standard punkish pop almost meld on this four-song EP. The standard elements are there; but these guys just don't seem to have their balls behind the music, which makes even their two semi-catchy numbers come off limp and boring. Below average. (SS)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 10 07 16, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

CRIPPLE BASTARDS/I.R.F - split EP

CRIPPLE BASTARDS come off with six vicious blasts of super fast crust. Fans of this band from Italy will be happy. Lyrics deal with female homemakers and justified violence. I.R.F. are from Japan and play some brutal grindcore. Tuned way down they sound a lot like old NAPALM DEATH. No lyrics. (TG)
(MCR Company, 157 Kamiagu Maizuru, Tokyo 624, JAPAN)

CRIPPLE BASTARDS - "Massacrecore" EP

Italy's CRIPPLE BASTARDS come at us twice this month with this and a split EP with I.R.F. from Japan. These twelve songs were recorded live at two different squats and a hardcore festival in Italy. The sound quality is pretty sketchy, overkill on the feedback, but I suppose if you're into 'em, you are definitely into 'em, right? CRIPPLE BASTARDS have been playing some of the fastest, nastiest, and gnarliest Italian thrash for a decade at least, and this is consistent with all of their other releases (although not as good as their split with SENSELESS APOCALYPSE), plus you get live versions of their covers of INDIGESTI and WRETCHED (both Italian hardcore legends). Dicey live recording of some great hardcore, but excellent cover artwork of a kid covered in blood hacking someone to pieces with an axe!!! (PB)
(Denied A Custom c/o Yoshiyuki Takahashi, 3-5-12-106, Hashigadai Narita-shi, Chiba 286, JAPAN)

DAHMER/SATURATION - split EP

DAHMER have put out so many records lately that they already have a discography in the works. Anyway, this time around they team up with SATURATION who are also from Quebec. SATURATION create havoc with some blasting grindcore mixed with the obligatory death metal vocals. DAHMER fall in the same vein as their past releases, which is very similar to SATURATION's style. Recommended. (RC)
(Spineless Records, PO Box 524 Stn. C, Montreal, PQ, H2L 4K4, CANADA)

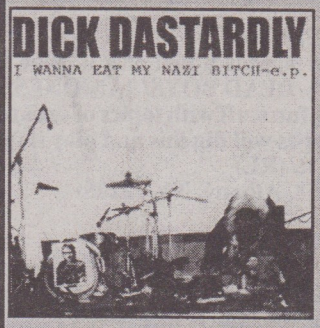
DAMNATION - "Getting Evil" EP

I've reviewed this band before, I recall a really smokin' CD a few months ago, with a real plain cover and no band photos. It was great, made me wonder who they were, and after hearing this I have a feeling I'd have come across it at some point even if I wasn't reviewing it. '80s type stuff much like DWARVES and the like. Now I'll go home and listen to the CD, obtain some DAMNATION if you can. (RY)
(Burning Tree Records, 10938 Magnolia #227, No Hollywood, CA 91601)

DEMENTIA THIRTEEN - "Now It's Over" EP

DEMENTIA THIRTEEN hail from the state of New York, but play a well crafted early '80s Midwest bare bones hardcore. Judging from the picture on the record sleeve, the music is still capable of sending young men into a circle pit frenzy. My favorite member of the band is Chris the bass player who sports much Adidas gear. I've got a fly running suit myself, not that I ever do more exercising than walking to the corner store. (TH)
(Heartless, 242 Glen Ave., Portchester, NY 10573)

MUSIC REVIEWS



DICK DASTARDLY - "I Wanna Eat My Nazi Bitch" EP

Well-done fake '77 era-style punk. This Italian band uses all three chords on these three songs. Nice cover of the CHOSEN FEW's "Adolf You Beauty!". Good shit, get it now. (MM)
(Hang Over Records c/o Luca Cattaruzza, Via M. Di Cefalonia 47, 20097 S. Donato, (MI), ITALY)

DIESEL BOY - "Venus Envy" LP

At first listen, this is more of that baggy-shorts, Warped Tour, Fat Wreck stuff, which I can usually take or leave, but if you look past (or get into) the GREEN DAY melodies, you can appreciate the genuine effort that has gone into crafting these songs, and you can enjoy the lyrics, which display a cool, tongue-in-cheek, self-deprecating sense of humor. It's hard for a band like this to stand out these days, but DIESEL BOY does. (AM)
(Honest Don's, PO Box 192027, San Francisco, CA 94119-2027)

THE DISENCHANTED/STRIPED BASTARDS - split EP

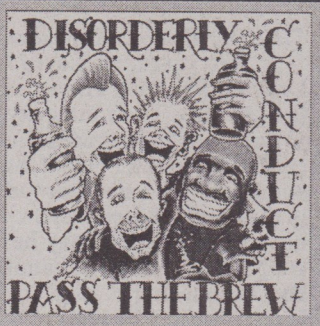
Marble blue vinyl, whoopee! This type of reaction I always have to colored vinyl is proof, I think, of an existing primal pleasure center triggered by such things as colored vinyl and DISENCHANTED records. This record, I'm sad to say, is not nearly as good as their split with the TWENTY TWOS, or their record "The 'Other' White Trash" which was put out on A.Y.P. Records. You don't even get that BLACK FLAG meets FILTH (U.S.) meets KANKER SORES sound due to the nature of this record. Both bands here do a song that is supposed to poke fun at the other, which due to my dumb as dirt upbringing sounds like a concept record. The end result is you get a DISENCHANTED song that doesn't sound like DISENCHANTED at all, and same for STRIPED BASTARDS, which can be fun as a secret track on a LP but accounts for fifty percent of the product here. STRIPED BASTARDS sound like they're 'from Europe' or something. It is DIY, and support now can mean future records from both these bands! (JV)
(Traffic Violation Records, PO Box 772, E Setauket, NY 11733)

DISGRUNTL - "Just A Mess" EP

They're in their infancy, that you can tell. This record isn't that great or anything, but you can hear some promise of a good band in here somewhere. Their vocals are totally metalled-out screech, musically backed strongly by RAW POWER-ish type crossover riffs and the same sorta thrash ADRENALIN O.D. played in the days of their "Humungusfungusamongus" LP. And their cover has a still photo from that great Jack Nicholson-popsicle scene at the end of "The Shining". (PB)
(Meat Slap Records, PO Box 73034, Las Vegas, NV 89170)

DISMACHINE/NAILED DOWN - split EP

Former do the blurr/pound shuffle - go about as fast as anyone could drum, then abruptly slow and pound your point in. Quick songs and a sheer wall of noise approach with nothing left to chance - hit it often enough, it will fall. Latter do the distorted, raw and chaotic hardcore they were doing back in '96, when this was actually recorded. Including a KURO cover, which certainly fits their style well. Good stuff. (TM)
(Homegrown Records c/o Falsal, Blk 111, Yishun Ring Road #02-367, 760111, SINGAPORE)



DISORDERLY CONDUCT - "Riot" EP

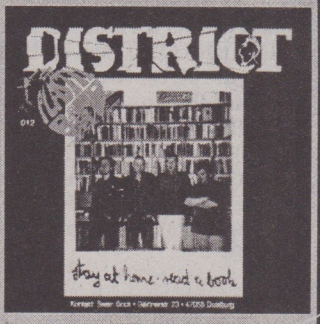
Pretty uninspired and boring COMBAT 84 or LAST RESORT-type oi out of North Carolina. Those bands had some good songs but overall were pretty mediocre, as is this four song 7". On top of that they commit the ultimate no-no... an American band using UK slang. "Ruck 'n' Roll"? Come on now. (RM)
(PO Box 7527, Wilmington, NC 28406)

THE DISTORTED - "Crack House Alley Revolution" EP

Eh? Speak into the horn, sonny, I can't hear a word you're saying! Feels like I'm on the other end of a tin can phone. This is tough and raw, fucked-up punk, kinda in a BLANKS 77 vein. The lyrics are intelligent and passionate. This is the type of shit that I love, but, man, what crappy sound quality. I realize that not everyone has access to decent recording equipment and it's a shame, because these guys would benefit from it. Maybe they should find a sugar daddy to finance the band. (JN)
(2609 S. 44th Terr, Kansas City, KS 66106)

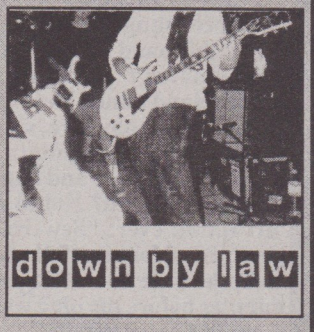
DISTRACTORS - "Shithouse Crazy" EP

The DISTRACTORS must undergo some kind of Jekyll and Hyde transformation when they pick up their guitars and stand behind microphones - they look like such mild-mannered, down home young Texans. Their music is another matter. This is fast, fuzzed-out punk played through blown amps and shredded vocal cords, with that refrigerator box drum sound sure to make your needle skip. Lyrically it runs the gamut from "Let's Get Sick" to "Fucked Up (Beyond Repair)" and everything that falls in between. If they're capable of a hateful record like this, who can you trust? (JH)
(Cheap Date Records, PO Box 426998, San Francisco, CA 94142)



DISTRICT/AFFRONT - split EP

DISTRICT kick things off in style with three songs of upbeat punk with a hint of oi in the choruses and an unmistakable Johnny Rotten snarl to the vocals. Storming. Conversely, AFFRONT are straightforward hardcore with gruff vocals, fast and hard and perhaps more deserving of the DIS- prefix than the first band. Not a bad split, worth it on the strength of DISTRICT alone. (AM)
(Plastic Bomb, Gartnerstr. 23, 47055 Duisburg, GERMANY)



DOWN BY LAW - "No Equalizer" EP

Oh boy, just what the world needs, more two dimensional pep talks, trite rebellion, and limp humor. What the fuck ever happened to Dave Smalley? This guy used to make inspiring music. Now he's on this current weak '77 revival kick. Oh well, at least DBL are no longer in their Epitaph clone mode. Did I mention this just didn't do it for me? (BG)
(Suspect Device Records, PO Box 295, Southampton, SO17 11W, UK)

MUSIC REVIEWS

THE DONNAS - "American Teenage Rock'n'Roll Machine" LP

Ten years ago, Larry Livermore and David Hayes started Lookout Records. They promoted the music they believed in; as fans, to fans. Their integrity somehow transcended their lack of connections to the music business establishment, and they succeeded to a greater extent than any indie label of their time. Larry and David have since moved on with their lives, leaving Lookout in the hands of new owners. In the first year that the new owners have run Lookout, they have run it into the ground. The new DONNAS album is yet another low point for the new Lookout. Bad fake teen girl hard rock with bad tunes and dumb lyrics, largely written by their manager, Darin. Sounds like a joke, but apparently not to the new gang at Lookout, who have jumped at the opportunity to market this album, and have done so in typical music industry fashion. Lookout has chosen to focus their marketing campaign on the band's image rather than the music. Apparently, even in 1998 having a band consist of four 18-year-old girls is a marketable gimmick. Lookout is spending more money on thousands of 8-by-10 glossies, large full-color posters, and even larger full-color posters than they used to spend on a band's entire release. This 'band' spends more time on photo shoots than rehearsals. If you compare the first few cool, home-grown DONNAS singles to this album it does not reflect well on the integrity of the new Lookout. To the DONNAS I ask: "Do you really want to be Lookout Records version of the SPICE GIRLS"? (MC)
(Lookout Records)

DOWNTIME - "Tooth & Nail" CD

This band plays a stinky blend of grunge and hardcore, and throws in a lot of awkward sounding 'hip hop' lingo. It is, however, good for a laugh with chorus lyrics going - "Break it down, break it, break it, break it down." Say it over and over in a metal rap voice to get the effect. (TG)
(Downtime, PO Box 90, Newtown NSW 2042, AUSTRALIA)

DUCKY BOYS/PINKERTON THUGS - split 45

Two of the Northeastern United States' hardest hitting punk bands turn in one song apiece on this excellent split on the PINKERTON THUGS' Police Records label. The DUCKY BOYS start the street rock rolling with their song "Another Day". This is melodic punk with rough edges, somewhat similar to the DROPKICK MURPHYS. When you play the PINKERTON THUGS side, the adrenaline starts flowing! This is good street punk, with top-flight vocals and guitar. Give this record an immediate listen! (BR)
($3 ppd: Police Records, 287 Chicks Crossing Rd., Wells, ME 04090)

ELECTRIC EELS - "Their Organic Majesties Request" CD

Well, if anyone wasn't paying attention the first two times this stuff was reissued, here's your third chance to get hip to the ruffest band to come out of '70s Ohio, the legendarily obnoxious art-fags the ELECTRIC EELS. Beaten by the police, hated by the audience, shunned by the hippie leftovers running the music scene, this band more than any other threw down the gauntlet of what is or isn't 'punk'. Is playing a top-40 cover-bands-only bar in Cleveland punk? How about covered in rat traps and sporting a giant white-boy afro, singing about suicide and hatred for the human race as two guitars drone and sputter behind you? Going into Midwest bars and dancing with each other until the inevitable fights started? Not to mention creating some of the nastiest 'art'-punk ever: "Sewercide", "Agitated", "Jaguar Ride". It's pretty hard for most folks to sit through this whole thing, I'm sure. Hell, the little booklet says their longest show lasted only twenty minutes before the plug was pulled. Still hated by many, I luv this fucking CD. (RW)
(Overground Records, PO Box, 1NW, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE 99 1NW, ENGLAND)

EROTICS - "Born To Destroy" CD

Good punk rock-n-roll that sounds a hell of a lot like D GENERATION. Make that poppy DEAD BOYS/RAMONES if you don't know D GEN. Certainly fun stuff with topics of sex and self-destruction a plenty. Retro types will dig this and play it for your goth sibling while you're at it. (RL)
(Cacophone Records, PO Box 6058, Albany, NY 12206)

EVERFRESH - CD

Swedish pop punk, and take a guess what it sounds like. Catchy melodic music, sounding too much like SNUFF, and sometimes even a bit like J CHURCH. Solid production, well rounded sound, but just too derivative for my tastes. (CW)
(V&V, Langrutiweg 20, CH-6330 Cham, SWITZERLAND)

EXTERNAL MENACE/RECTIFY - split EP

EXTERNAL MENACE play a politically minded brand of punk. Their sound is fairly polished, form the rhythm section to the guitar work. RECTIFY play two tracks of mid tempo hardcore, complete with drum fills and intricate sing a long choruses. A solid release, but nevertheless, it did not win me over. (CW)
(Suspect Device Records, PO Box 295, Southampton, SO17 1LW, ENGLAND)

EXTERNAL MENACE - "The Process Of Elimination" CD

This Scottish band have been around for a bit, although I think the addition of Ian Welsh on vocals is fairly recent, and to be honest I think I prefer the songs where the older guy sings more - no offense against the boy, but you can hear Sneddon's history and life in his voice... and it sounds rough. Anyway, they do a RUTS cover, and that's a pretty good indicator of their sound, older RUTS hardcore'd up a bit, with the obligatory ska and reggae interludes, like their Glaswegian counterparts EX CATHEDRA. All in all, not a bad album - especially the slower, punker, less hardcore songs. (AM)
(Negative Records, 80 Avenue de St. Ouen, 75010 Paris, FRANCE)

F-WORD - "Like It Or Not... Live!" LP

The crowning moment of my career: I get to review a Posh Boy record, even if it is twenty years after the fact. Dirk Dirksen of Mabuhay Gardens fame introduces them as "these plastic punks from L.A.", but there was more to F-WORD than that. They launched the career of punk rocker turned singer-songwriter Rik L. Rik (late of ELECTRIC FRANKENSTEIN), they had a rad song about the Hillside Strangler, and they were one of the first Cali bands to have an LP of their very own. Recorded in front of an unenthusiastic San Francisco crowd, "Like It Or Not" features clear live sound, lots of audience baiting from the stage (" ...you've destroyed their act by taking the mike into that pit of Neanderthals!"), strong English-style p. rock, and slurred Valley Dude vocals courtesy of Mr. Rik himself. Godlike to some, less to others, it's still a pretty cool record to own. (JH)
(Posh Boy Records)

FACING DOWN - "No Offence Scorpio" CD

Good emo-esque pop punk here. The bio compares them to NO USE FOR A NAME but they're better than that. Still, this would fit on Fat or Epitaph with ease. Really tight riffing and really strong drumming. Fast and powerful with melody. I like. (RL)
(Caesar, Forsterstr 38, D-66111 Saarbrucken, GERMANY)

MUSIC REVIEWS

THE FANCY LADS - "Everything Is You/Shake Appeal"

They could have been around in '79, Posh Boy would have signed them, Rodney would have played their single on KROQ, they would have opened for BLONDIE at the Whiskey, but hey it's 1998, so hold on to your day jobs folks! Very, very good power pop. (EC)
(Planet Of Noise, PO Box 4343, Stockholm S-10267, SWEDEN)

FLACHENBRAND - "Volkermord" CD

Strange package - 3" CD in a 5" sleeve. Minimal information - 11 songs, including a S.O.B. cover. It's great hardcore - thick production, solid songwriting. Hard to comment too much - there's just so many unknowns. Like the song "Most Toxic Frog On Earth". What?!! Or "Heroic Honkong Bloodshed". Huh?! A good listen, but leaves me with far more questions than answers! (TM)
(R.S.R. Records c/o Sandro Gessner, Str des Friedens 45, 07819 Mittelpollnitz, GERMANY)

THE FLAMING SIDEBURNS - "Bama-Lama Boogaloo! Raw 'n' Live" CD

I love the audacity of a new band that puts out a live CD on which every song, but one, is a cover. That certainly takes guts. However, this CD was put out by someone who happened to catch them live and thought the world needed to hear this. They must put on one amazing show. It's just too bad it doesn't translate that well to me. Sure, this is some good garage rock poorly recorded. They cover the KINKS, the SONICS (many times), LINK WRAY, DALE HAWKINS, which are all good choices, and I enjoy listening to this, but I guess I had to be there. (CK)
(Smokin' Troll, 48 Llwyn Bueno, Bontnewydd, Caernarvon, LL55 2UH, U.K.)

FLAT DUO JETS - "Live Live Live" CD

Armed with just a cheap guitar and a drummer behind him, ole' Dexter downright testifies here and gets the lowdown chills happening pretty well. Everything from LINK WRAY tunes to classic Sam Phillips tunes to even PAUL ANKA covers (as well as a cover of "Shape Of Things To Come" thrown in) done with style, panache and too many years of doing this. Also classic originals like "Michelle" and the show stopper being the 11 minute(!) version of LOUIE PRIMA's "Sing Sing Sing" done fuckin' true to form with just one guitar and one drummer. This had to be heard to be believed. These guys have done their time and it shows in spades. (JY)
(Norton, PO Box 646, Cooper Sta, New York, NY 10276)

FOUR LETTER WORD - "A Nasty Piece Of Work" LP

I wonder which four-letter word they mean? Anyway, this thirteen song LP has it all. Great songs that are kinda like CURBSIDE and JUGHEAD'S REVENGE. Maybe even GOOD RIDDANCE. Political lyrics that would remind you of a hardcore or straight-edge band. Pictures of b.b. guns, knives, cigarette butts, and all the other punk necessities. Even quotes from Microsoft Encarta's™ quote section. Like I said, it has it all. I would say to check out their "Words That Burn" EP but all the songs on it, are on this. So never mind. Warning: Contains language some people may find offensive. Oh, if that were only true. (AT)
($7 ppd: BYO Records, PO Box 67A64, Los Angeles, CA 90067)

FREAK SHOW/ALARMA SOCIAL - split EP

FREAK SHOW play mid tempo to fast paced h.c. with moments that brings to mind the early D.C. punk sound, or perhaps more the generation of a band like FURY that resurrected that sound in the early '90s. Good energy and intelligent lyrics about D.I.Y and celebrating sexual diversity make up for muffled production. ALARMA SOCIAL play fast 1-2 punk with a full sound interspersed with powerful build ups and anthemic sing along choruses. Overall a good release. (MK)
(Fragment Music, PO Box 2247, 09080 Burgos, SPAIN)

FRENZAL RHOMB - "Meet The Family" CD

The freaks of the industry are back again with another great CD. This time FRENZAL RHOMB sound a little more BAD RELIGION-ish, yet still have a little of that Fat sound, and their own sound, of course. Why did they even leave Fat? Who cares. This CD is cool. Like I said, it's a little like BAD RELIGION, but also has some more poppy stuff. Even ska breakdowns like NOFX. Great artwork and great sound quality mean good record! This album is sure to get them some deserved recognition. Too bad they didn't leave an address. (AT)
(no address)

FRENZAL RHOMB - "Once A Jolly Swagman, Always A Jolly Swagman" LP

A collection of three early records from these Australian folk. Initially this struck me as mediocre Epitaph type stuff, but as I read the lyrics this got worse and worse. Angst from a stupidity view point. "Why is it that you're such a cock" not to be confused with "why are you always a cunt", and the topical "Chemotherapy" with gems like "I'm bleeding from my dick" and "I don't want to wake up with a warm patch in the bed". Horrible, I mean really horrible. (RL)
(Liberation Records, PO Box 17746, Anaheim, CA 92817)

FUCKFACE - "Bastard" EP

Yes kids, the infamous FUCKFACE is no more. They recently ended their last show by setting themselves on fire while screaming something about "the South *will* conquer all." As a tribute to their fans each one of the records from this pressing contains a sprinkling of their ashes molded right into the vinyl. It just makes their ear bashing, bass heavy punk rock all the more appealing.... doesn't it? (RC)
(PO Box 15295, San Francisco, CA 94115)

FUNERAL DRESS - "Singalong Pogo Punk" LP

An aptly titled disc from these Belgian punkers. Largely influenced by the early '80s UK oi scene, it's catchy and begs for a sing-a-long. In general the songs are political in nature. Song quality ranges from mediocre to excellent. What's with these European punks and their kissing and leather jackets and multicolored mohawks and circled "A"s? (KK)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 100716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

MUSIC REVIEWS

GLOBAL HOLOCAUST - "No More" EP

From Quebec comes another release from GLOBAL HOLOCAUST with a more straight forward approach than that of their Quebec counterparts (URANUS, DRIFT). Their sound takes on a less epic feel charged by upbeat fast paced metallic hardcore that stops just short of indulgent solos and blast beat mayhem. With lyrics in both French and English, the songs address such issues as animal experimentation and the case of Belgian pedophile Marc Dutroux. (MK)
(Tobacco Shit Records, 827 Goldbourn, Greenfield Park, PQ, J4V 3H4, CANADA)

GLUECIFER - "Ridin' The Tiger" LP

Band from Norway..... same label that put out the HELLACOPTERS LP..... but the HELLACOPTERS rock harder!!!!!!!!! Actually, I think this band's heart is in the right place, but this album really bored me to tears..... Wait, there are a few good cuts that stand out, but all in all, my cock lies limp..... Don't get me wrong, it is heavy rock n roll, it just don't grab ya..... I don't think these kids are getting as much pussy as the HELLACOPTERS..... take it from me, sex = good rock'n'roll..... Without it, your music is weak and lifeless..... Shit, I don't wanna knock these kids too hard.... I'll give this record a C+.... (SW)
(White Jazz, Box 2140, 103 14 Stockholm, SWEDEN)

GODSTOMPER/CATHY AMES - split EP

The first vinyl appearance for GODSTOMPER is what you'd expect from the dynamic duo. 6 songs of full throttle, two-man thrash. The now defunct CATHY AMES offer 3 songs of their high energy punk/hardcore with some of the harshest female vocals this side of Yuba City. Get it now or whine when it's sold out forever. (MW)
($3 ppd: Cesspool Records c/o Paul Barfo, 985 Bidwell Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086)

GOOBER PATROL - "Truck Off" CD

This is a re-release of the GOOBER PATROL demo "Truck Off" and three hard to get songs from their split with VEHICLE DEREK. All before going to Fat Wreck Chords. Hell, this is the reason why Fat signed them! A must have for collectors. Buy it while you can. It's definitely worth it. (AT)
(Them's Good Records, PO Box 8, Corby, Northamptonshire, NN17 2XZ, UK)

GOOD RIDDANCE - "Ballads From The Revolution" CD

GOOD RIDDANCE has good intentions at heart and their politics, such as being against animal testing and for AIDS research, I commend. But they sound like they are on Fat and don't want to deviate much from that pop punk thing. Their sound is obvious and their lyrics are totally high school, which would be cool if they didn't look all old and stuff. (TJ)
(Fat Wreck Chords, PO Box 193690, San Francisco, CA 94119)

GREENCARD - "Alterniven Zur Vernunft" CD

Sappy pop punk that somehow manages to work. Their sound falls somewhere between SNUFF and DESCENDENTS. Big powerful hooks and catchy choruses load this release up with enough sugar to cause tooth decay. I liked this one. (CW)
(Caesar Records, Forsterestr 38, 66111 Saarbrucken, GERMANY)

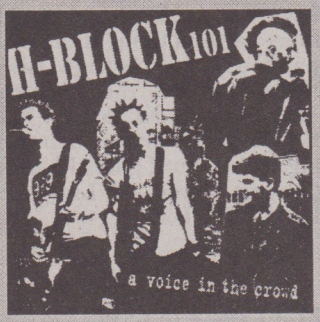
GROWING CONCERN - "Never Fades Away" CD

A Italian straightedge band who are following a path tred by many - release a scorching single, then on each release gradually turn down the speed, impact and forcefulness. I have a hard time judging this on its own - it's impossible not to go by what they've done in the past. This is slower, more melodic, and wears its influences so patently it seems like a placebo. I'll stick to the old stuff, thanks. (TM)
($8 ppd: S.O.A. Records c/o Paolo Petralia, Via O. Da Gubbio 67/69, 00146 Roma, ITALY)

GROWN APART - "Crack In The Mirror" EP

Slow to mid tempo German punk rock with strong, melodic female vocals sung in English. Competently played, not that exciting. (MM)
(Moonriver Records, Horsterstr 220, 45968 Gladbeck, GERMANY)

H-BLOCK 101 - "A Voice In The Crowd" EP

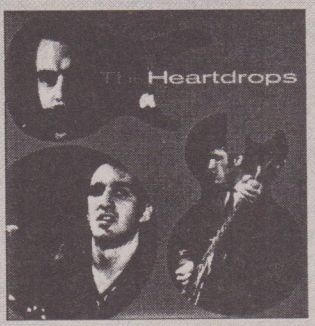


Australian, oi-influenced, traditional punk that absolutely rocks. This record is so catchy it's almost scary. Everything here - the guitars, the rhythm section, the vocals - begs for head-bouncing. While obviously influenced by many of the UK bands from the late '70s, these guys do much more than just imitate and definitely have their own sound. Well produced and mixed on top of it all. Highly recommended. (KK)
(Walking Proud Records c/o Andi Pekarek, PO Box 3034, Doncaster East, 3109 Vic, AUSTRALIA)

H-BLOCK 101 - "No Room For Apathy" CD

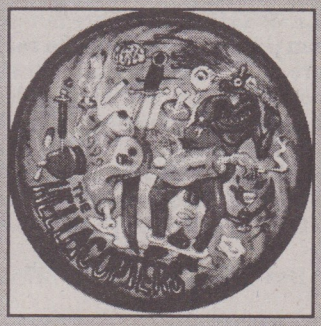
Very good Australian band here. They kick off with a frantic pogo tune, then they explode in all sorts of directions. With keyboards, horn section, great vocal harmonies and some ska and dub(!), they manage to tap into a progressive punk sound that reminds me of the eighties. Think CARDIACS and NEWTOWN NEUROTICS. Full lyric sheet enclosed, including a song about America entitled "Legalized T.V. Violence". (TB)
(Shock Records, 24 High St, Northcote, Vic, AUSTRALIA)

THE HEARTDROPS - "Truth Comes Around/Eight Days A Week"



Powerful rock 'n' roll that sounds like the JUNK MONKEYS. The A side is a good melodic original, while the flip is an ill conceived BEATLES cover. (MC)
($3.50 ppd: Pat Dull, 91 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus, OH 43202)

MUSIC REVIEWS



THE HELLACOPTERS - "Like No Other Man/Gimmie Shelter"

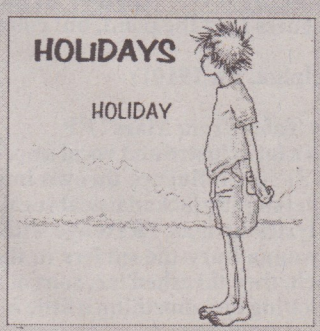
Picture disc here..... painting of a demon fucking a dead chick with no head, arms or legs..... yawn! Well, this 45 was a bit disappointing fer me..... I mean, I am a fan and all, but the A side is already on their motherfucking great long player!!!!!! That's a burn in my book!!! I wanna hear something new!!!!!!! The flip is a tired version of a STONES song!!!!!! Fuck, this is too bad!!!! I mean I really love this band!!!!! They're the heaviest thing to come around in a long time!!!!!! This is what happens when bands don't say "no" to every Tom, Dick and Harry record label that hits them up for material!!!!!! Shit, well I don't wanna be too hard here..... I'm sorry guys, I still love you.... (SW)
(Flapping Jet, 3639 Midway Dr. #271, San Diego, CA 92110)

HELLACOPTERS - "Soulseller/Nothin' To Do"

Blows away everything else this month! Jeez this band gets better and better! Sweden's wanking kings mean business when it comes to rocking the shit out of we poor kids. Several times over this month too, all great. "Soulseller" receives its vocals from BLAG DAHLIA. There's just no way to hurt me better than receiving the ass-kicking this band delivers. Hearty! (RY)
(no address)

THE HIVES/THE PRICKS - split EP

THE HIVES have my heart swinging through the steamy jungles of all that is right with the world! Fast, trashy, fun, rockin' as all fuck. It's the same feeling I get after listening to THE DICKIES. Like plunging over Niagara Falls in a barrel full of monkeys. I love this! I am going to pack my bags for Sweden tonight! Woo-woo, I'm all a-flutter! THE PRICKS are also tres magnifique. Listening to them, I thought to myself, "This sounds a hell of a lot like that second-to-last FYP record" - glancing up at the thanks list, the only two bands they thank are THE HIVES and - ah ha! - FYP! A connection has been made! They don't call me the Nancy Drew of punk rock for nothing! Nevertheless, I like THE PRICKS side, too - but it does sound uncannily like FYP, they could be covers, right down to that singing-with-a-balled-up-sock-in-his-mouth effect on the fast hardcore songs. Great record. Bravo! (JN)
(Hard-on Records c/o Elfsten, Kjellingatan 16, 692 38 Kumla, SWEDEN)



HOLIDAYS - "Holiday" EP

Fun Japanese pop punk that reminds me of the FASTBACKS, i.e. amateur vocals. Poppy punk rock with a dash of bubblegum. Nothing great, but still decent if not downright cute. (RL)
(Grape Village Records, House Asagaya 202, 1-1-4 Asagayakita, Suginami-ku, Tokyo 166, JAPAN)

HORACE GOES SKIING - "Domestic Violence" EP

Great pop punk from this UK band from the great "Best Punk Rock In England, Son" comp. Poppy, strong tunes, just the right amount of production. Somewhere in between SKIMMER and JIMMY EAT WORLD. Pop punk with some twists. The track "Input=Output" is pretty fucking classic pop punk. Awesome. (RL)
($3 ppd: Pop Kid, 16 Raleigh Ln, Wayne, NJ 07470)

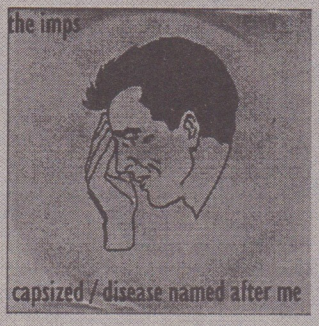
HOUSEBOY - "Ya right!" CD

This California band played fast tempo, melodic pop punk which brought to mind JAWBREAKER at moments. The songs all started to blend together and sound the same after awhile. (MM)
(Stiffpole Records, PO Box 20721, St. Petersburg, FL 33742)

IMIOSACHSCHADEN - "Garung Und Tat" EP

Fuck - this is the thickest single I've ever seen. The vinyl's like three inches thick, and the cover is some cardboard thing about another three inches. Fucking boat anchor here. Somewhat lackluster German hardcore - funny that they use pictures of riots on the cover, can't imagine this inciting anyone to that! Maybe the live recording is to blame.... who knows. (TM)
(Umsturz Records, no address)

THE IMPS - "Capsized/Disease Named After Me"



Two quality songs, collegey, sensitive, harmonizing, anguished cries, lo-fi engineering, and buzzy guitars. It reminds me of early nineties 'gray area' crossover punk, like SUPERCHUNK or YO LA TENGO, stuff which is independent but does not fit neatly into a traditional punk category. Bands shouldn't be this serious without being political. Just my opinion, I guess, on the Angsty Young Man's music. It's good homemade stuff, though. (GS)
(Shoegum Records, PO Box 5507, Chico, CA 95927)

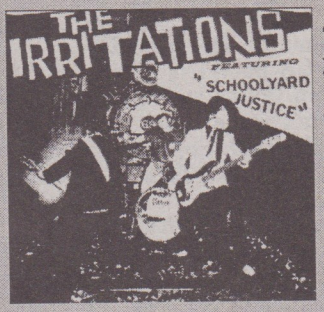
THE INSECT - "Hard To Cry" EP

As official 360 Twist Records release reviewer, I should have a form review in which I simply fill in the blanks. I guess I'll start now. 60's-style garage rock done by learned musicians that lacks the pizazz or "umph" to separate it from the masses. THE INSECT has what it takes, but I'm getting old and jaded and need a little more excitement from my rock bands. (CK)
(360 Twist Records, PO Box 9367, Denver, CO 80209)

IRONBOSS - "Age Of Gasoline" CD

Imagine if TAD sang about the environment and taking it back. Real throaty vocals that are part grunge and part swamp boogie. Pretty nice sounding guitars (real rough without being tuneless) and decent production. I can't pay attention to the slow jams. But the fast stuff is pretty rockin' and I would imagine they would be fun live. (LH)
(V & V Productions, Langrütiweg 20, CH-6330 Cham, SWITZERLAND)

MUSIC REVIEWS



THE IRRITATIONS - "Schoolyard Justice" EP

Latter day garage punk with decent songs and the noisy, trebly production style that does, indeed, seem to irritate plenty of chumps. As far as I'm concerned it's A-O.K. Let the kids rock. (DD)
(Sack O' Shit Records, PO Box 308, Kankakee, IL 60901)

JIFFY BOY - CD

Real snotty, straight up punk. You can tell they are a relatively young band. It works for them energy and sincerity wise, but against them quality control wise. Still, this is a decent introduction to what is probably a damn good live band. (BG)
(PO Box 234, Manhattan, KS 66505)

JIKER - "An Eh For An Eh, A Tooque For A Tooque" CD

This seven-piece ska-punk band from Canada (I think) serve up a great sixteen song CD that will truly knock your ass off! It's ska, it's punk. It's got some hardcore in there. Even some surf. This band definitely has it all. They sound like SKANKIN' PICKLE, AGAINST ALL AUTHORITY, BIOHAZARD, SUICIDAL TENDENCIES, DICK DALE, CLAMBAIT, and the AQUABATS all rolled into one. This is truly the best ska-core band I've heard in about a year. Brought to you by Elevator Music, the same guys who brought us the TEDIO BOYS. I love you guys. (AT)
(Elevator Music, PO Box 1502, New Haven, CT 06505)

JINX - "Jinx" CD

Herky jerky mohawk music from Eastern Europe, maybe Poland. They sing in English and have some good ideas for mixing their punk, pop and some ska. They just can't quite get it tight enough. They've got a full lyric sheet, but I see no mention of a record label. (TB)
(no address)

JOHNNIES - "12 Steps To Nowhere" CD

Formerly known as JOHNNY BRAVO, this is pop-punk with a liberal dose of Beantown bred belligerent goofiness. In sound and spirit, they remind me of a '90s version of those old Boston semi-legends THE DOGMATICS (whose "Shithouse" they cover, as well dedicating a song to one of the brothers). Some songs sorta sound like a poppier NOFX while others are straight on hook-filled pop-punk. Melodic yet still ham-fisted, heartfelt yet still rude, the contradictions pile up. Good songs in "You Don't Know Me" and the stoopid "Barbie's A Bitch". (JY)
(Eric Law, PO Box 689, Hingham, MA 02043-0689)

THE JOHNNY BOYS - "Broken Radio" LP

Very energetic and clearly recorded Japanese punk that's in a late '70s/early '80s tradition. Catchy, of course, though I don't hear the STIFF LITTLE FINGERS influence that the promo sheet mentioned. The more I listen, the more I think the energy is more punk hardcore than punk, kinda like the STALIN. Thanks to this label for taking what was just on a Japanese CD and making it available to the rest of us. (TY)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 100716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

JOHNNY DOLE & THE SCABS - "Scab Animal '77" 12"

Four Australian yobs with hair like Robert Plant make lots of big, ugly noise. JOHNNY DOLE & THE SCABS are notorious in the annals of early Australian p. rock, determined to rock harder, swear more, and wear more safety pins than any of their contemporaries. The eight tracks on "Scab Animal" were culled from a disintegrating twenty-year-old cassette, making the fidelity low and the noise level high... "Living Like an Animal" and "All That's Going On" are the best things on the record, but it's all vintage Neanderthal punk and roll that's a must hear for fans of early SAINTS, VICTIMS, or ROCKS. Limited to a mere 500 copies. (JH)
(Existential Vacuum Records, PO Box 49984, Austin, TX 78765)

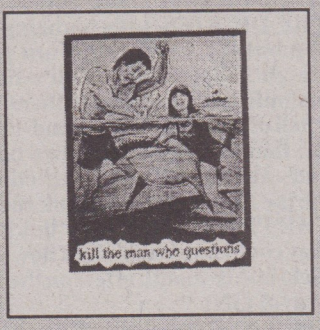
JONESCRUSHER - "On Your Own" EP

Pretty amazing imitation of any 1980 bargain-bin new wave/power-pop 7" that would spring to mind after a coupla spins. You know, like a band trying to sound like THE POP or MINNY POPS or NEEDLES & PINS. Ok? I don't know if it's intentional, mind you. Pretty creepy. I didn't like it very much. (RW)
(Kado Records, 21000 Boca Rio Rd. A-15, Boca Raton, FL 33433)

KIDS ARE SICK - "Backstabbers Ride For Free" EP

Scandinavia rocks!!!! The HELLACOPTERS, PUFFBALL, GLUECIFER, and now KIDS ARE SICK. I'm totally fulfilled! If you've been following any of these bands, you'll know what I mean. When you're hungry for furious, carnivorous, fast, heavy stuff. You gotta go with the Norsemen and the Aussies. This rules!! (RY)
(Psychout Records, PO Box 255, S-11479 Stockholm, SWEDEN)

KILL THE MAN WHO QUESTIONS - "Number One Asshole" EP



Stop the presses! Bloodlink Records has finally put out a hardcore record again! This band has an awesome sound, it combines the tightness and punch of East Coast hardcore with a real punk edge, due to the awesome NAUSEA-like male/female vocal tradeoffs. Each song drives right through but gives enough hooks and breakdowns to keep my full attention. Their song "Expiration" attacks the reverence people have for the good ol' days and adds to the lyrics a collage of Klansmen, Rush Limbaugh, and YOUTH OF TODAY, all under the title "Bringing It Back." I guess I get the point, but come on. (TH)
(Bloodlink, PO Box 7414, Philadelphia, PA 19101)

KIM'S TEDDY BEARS - "Teddy Tales From Mars" EP

Garagey semi-pop punk with a lot of instro and vocal (more TRASHMEN than BEACH BOYS) surf influence thrown into the mix. I found the slightly snotty yet slightly lackadaisical vocals compelling, especially delivering lyrics such as, "Revenge without fear, Bat-gun in my hand. I wanna bury the surfers in the sand...but these surfers in the beach, they thrashed me, sons of a bitch." Recommended for those looking for something a little bit different. (DD)
(Battaggi Cristiano, Pragate, Torrazza Coste, 27050 (PV), ITALY)

MUSIC REVIEWS

KNUCKLEHEAD - "B-Anthem" EP

This is a fun little record. Some happy go lucky Canadian punk with a DUCKY BOYS sort of sound. Some mature, insightful lyrics and a tribute to summertime and beer, featuring Bob and Doug McKenzie. (TB)
(Far Out Records, PO Box 14361, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33302)

THE KRAYS - "Inside Warfare" LP

First off, it's pretty fucking punk how they got this record jacket to smell like vomit, I feel like I'm going to puke. THE KRAYS, along with their mohawks and studs, no doubt felt this would conjure up a more complete memory of an early '80s warehouse show. Their early '80s punk rock style influenced by oi helps, too. Catchy, punk, not overly original, but fuck it, all rock sounds the same. (TJ)
(Tribal War Records, PO Box 20712, Tompkins, NY 10009)

LAGER LADS - "On The Side" EP

Mixed bag by this Canadian four piece. The title track is pretty rockin' and sounds like a more upbeat MURDER JUNKIES or ANTI-SEEN, not only in the music but lyric department as well (i.e. high on the dumb meter). The next song, a cover of "Rich Kids" by fellow Canadians THE POSERS, suffers from a really muddy mix that almost eliminates the vocals completely but the music is powerful and driving. On the flip they do the same song, "Moy Street Boys", twice. The first time they do it as a two-tone ska song and it falls flat on it's face. They then serve it up in a straight forward oi, oi pogo-punk style and kick fuckin' ass. Worth it for the punk version of "Moy Street Boys". (RM)
(Blind Beggar Records, Bogenstr 25, 66957 Eppenbrunn, GERMANY)

LEATHERFACE - "Cherry Knowle" LP

Well, here it is, a rerelease of their 1989 debut LP. I actually listen to this a lot. It not only stands the test of time, it's still head and shoulders above a lot of what's come since. It was music to my ears when I heard they'd got back together. Anyway, if you've never been exposed to this fine band, now's as good a time as any - you've got a lot of catching up to do. Imagine HÜSKER DÜ and MOTORHEAD together and you're almost there, although that doesn't really do them justice. Just get it. Distributed in the U.S. by Bottlenekk. (AM)
(Rejected Records, 9 Woodlands Ave, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, IRELAND)

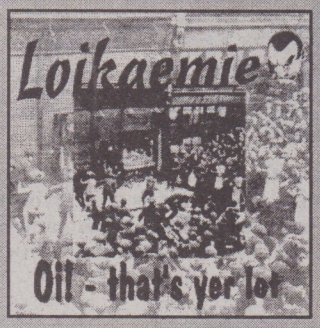
LIZARDS - "Sick Of You" EP

Sacramento is such a den of debauchery. I was expecting something more jokey, something outrageous, maybe at the expense of musical quality. But not so! Faithless that I am... Aside from funny lyrics, it's actually pretty restrained. Four great songs of a speedy, upbeat, ever-so-slightly-retro punk style; catchy and energetic. The trio and a half features Sacto legends Dave from POUNDED CLOWN, Matt K. from the SHRUGGS, Hal of SEWER TROUT, and Jay of SEA PIGS. (GS)
($3 ppd: Little Deputy Records, PO Box 7066, Austin, TX 78713)

LOIKAEMIE - "Ihr Für Uns Und Wir Für Euch" LP

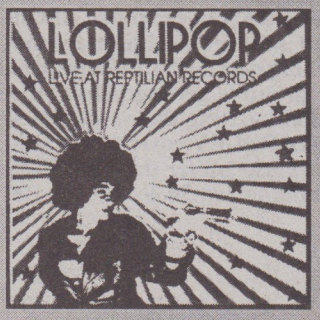
This record annoyed the hell out of me. It might have helped if I could read German. They feature a crucified skin on the back cover. They play some mediocre hardcore and punk and a little ska and they scream "oi" many times. It quickly becomes background music. (TB)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 100716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

LOIKAEMIE - "Oi! That's Yer Lot" EP



LOIKAEMIE play spirited oi with great vocals and impressive guitar. LOIKAEMIE celebrate the traditional skinhead way of life. Sung mostly in their native German, LOIKAEMIE has lots of spontaneity while exhibiting quite an array of skills on their instruments. This EP and their current LP call attention to this band's prolific songwriting and their punch-in-the-nose delivery. Good Shit! Watch for more! (BR)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 100716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

LOLLIPOP - "Live At Reptilian Records" EP



I've heard some of these guys' earlier singles, and the memory was 'AmRep'. It's still there, the rubbery bass lines and the desire to play the exact same fucking riff again and again and again and again and again and again and again and again and again and again and again as if that equaled 'heavy'. Yet ... yet, I'm gonna lighten up here, there's something weird going on in the guitar and vocals that keeps the toilet lid down. This thing is ok, not necessary for anyone who's OD'd on the sound, but not terrible either. File next to early MONSTER MAGNET, only not as 'heavy'. Heh. (RW)
(Reptilian Records, 403 S. Broadway, Baltimore, MD 21231)

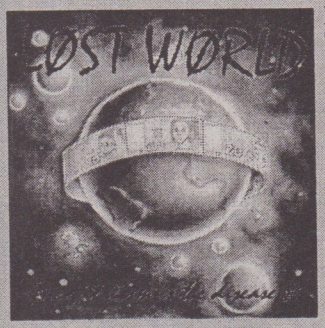
LOOSE CHANGE - "D Is For Delinquent" CD

These guys used to sound like the PARASITES and RHYTHM COLLISION sped up in a skate-punk kinda way. At least they did on their "Lucky Dog" EP. Now they still have the same sound but sped up even more and maybe a hint of Fat Wreck sound. Maybe throw in some B.H.R. Naw fuck all that, these guys are what I like to call unique. A sound all their own. I wanna say FIFTEEN but I already did this issue so never mind that. Twelve great songs for one low price! If you listen to nothing else I say, at least listen to this: This shit rocks dammit! (AT)
($9 ppd: Noise Patch Records, PO Box 1646, Redondo Beach, CA 90278-0746)

LOVE SIKK JUNKIEZ - "Sex Action" CD

OK, this blows. A Hungarian (I guess) '90s hair band or something. No one wants MOTLEY CRUE to be appreciated this way!!! It's a *one* song fucking CD single too - the fools!! They've also got this sex gimmick with really hot lyrics like "...you're a fuckin' slut... call me if you wanna have a sixty-nine... hey, my pretty little, clean your ass...". Don't these idiots know that the best butt-rock is usually G-rated, and Traci Lords is into techno anyway. (RY)
(Shotgun Generation Records, PE 106, 1755 Budapest, HUNGARY)

MUSIC REVIEWS



LOST WORLD - "Capitalism Is The Disease" 2xEP

At times I thought that this was a split between two bands, but it's just LOST WORLD. There are two distinct sounds here. One is extremely melodic, but not poppy or happy or anything like that. Somewhat along the lines of LEATHERFACE on the "Mush" LP. The other sound is much more gritty sounding and has a more direct punk approach, but with some quirks. Now don't worry, the different sounds aren't so far apart as to be inconsistent with each other and wreck the release. Quite the contrary. (TH)
(Skuld/Profane Existence, PO Box 8722, Minneapolis, MN 55408)

MACH 5 - "Freedom/Pretty Girl"

Well well well.....what do we got here????? A chick with fake titties on the cover giving the bird!!!!! San Diego group here..... or is it Detroit??????!!!!!!! What I mean is that these motherfuckers are pretty much an MC5 type of thang..... complete with American flag shit all over the cover and all..... But I must say, the A side here, that being the original number, is fucking rockin'!!!!!!!!! I mean hot!!!!! This is definitely a sign that the group is getting plenty of sex!!!!!! Nobody rocks this hard without getting their cocks sucked every day!!!!!!!! The flip is a BO DIDDLEY cover.....not bad, but the A side is errrrrrr!!!!!!!! Two cocks up fer this one!!!!! (SW)
(Flapping Jet, 3639 Midway Dr. #271, San Diego, CA 92110)

MAIN STREET SAINTS - "Johnny Bomb Was Right!" EP

The MAIN STREET SAINTS scare me, to be totally honest, they sound like the guys who used to stick my head in the toilet in high school. They have a sort of early eighties oi sound to them, the gravelly vocals and circling guitars are reminiscent of English skinhead bands . In their defense, this is a nicely put together hunk of plastic for those of you who dig shaved heads and braces. (AA)
(Haunted Town Records, 1658 N. Milwaukee Ave. #169, Chicago, IL 60647)

MAJOR ACCIDENT - "The Ultimate High" CD

Christ! Where in the hell did this come from?! This is the band's first album since 1984, and it ain't no heavy metal experiment. One of oi's more elusive acts is back with a vengeance, and with their infamous clockwork motif firmly in place. The sound is matured. Gritty, melodic punk laced with tasteful lead guitar. Lofty vocals with strong harmonies. Lyrics full of everyday insanity. This is some of their strongest material and one of the best street punk records of '98. (TB)
(GMM Records, PO Box 15234, Atlanta, GA 30333)

MOLOKO MEN - "Clockwork Ultra Violence" EP

Juvenile skinhead band goes for the clockwork orange thing and fails miserably. They've got some decent hardcore riffs goin' on, but not much style. And with lyrics like "Fighting for the cause of oi!", they've got a long way to go. (TB)
(Vulture Rock, PO Box 40104, Albuquerque, NM 87196)

MONKEYS FACTORY - "Voja De Lavora Saltame Addrosso" CD

This band of Italian anarchists cover all kinds of ground, from ska to oi-ish punk to hardcore, but sound their best on the mid-paced, melodic, rockin' numbers. There are seventeen songs, all sung in Italian, but the nice looking lyric booklet is translated into English. There's some cool guitar interplay on some tracks that would sound atmospheric if they didn't interrupt it with that double-time hardcore drumming. Still, definitely a foot-tapper. (AM)
(Grillo Andrea, Via Galilei 57, 04011 Aprilia, ITALY)

THE MORNING SHAKES - "Lotta Trash! Lotta Action!" LP

It's nice to be instantly happy when you see a record in your review bin. This one did that for me. I'm so glad there is finally a full length record out from the MORNING SHAKES and the best part is that it is good. Trashy rock and roll from New York City. The production isn't that great, but if you turn it up as loud as your stereo will go it sounds perfect. Fast, loud and crazy. Songs titles such as "Pull Down Your Pants", "Blind Drunk" and "Charles Bukowski". You know this is the record for you. (CK)
(Cacophone Records, PO Box 1186, Old Chelsea Stn, New York, NY 10011)

THE MORNING SHAKES - "Switchblades And Sideburns" CD

New York's rock and roll boozers' latest gift to losers like me. I think this band is great still, but I liked the last record a bit better, it seemed to have more energy somehow. This one leans a bit more toward the rockabilly and retro too, maybe that's why it sounds a little tired. There are a few really ass kicking songs, though, that keep me happy with it overall. Cool. (RY)
(Stiff Pole Records, PO Box 20721, St Petersburg, FL 33742)

MOTORSAGENSERVICE - CD

Sometimes people just get insanely creative. First off, this is a tiny CD, and it is so cute! I didn't know what the hell it was, so I just threw it on the stereo and let it rip! These guys are fast as hell, and the break downs and intros are pretty clever. Heavy guitar riffs, and a mixture of deep throaty vocals make this a worthwhile thing to check out. (LU)
(S.O.A. c/o Paolo Petralia, Via Oderisi Da Gubbio 67/69, 00146 Rome, ITALY)

MUSIC REVIEWS

MUMMY THE PEEPSHOW - "Mummify M" EP

All-girl group from Japan. The guitar and bass are both really distorted and heavy, contrasting with the high vocals in a way that causes one to lean back, hands folded across the chest, eyes skyward, filled with an all-encompassing sense of joy and contentment. Side A sounds like a circus—with a whistle, marching band snare drum interludes, and pseudo-ska guitar chugging—which is only pleasant. To defeat winter doldrums, drink a pot of coffee and listen to this record. (JN)
(Detector, 6524 Harco St, Long Beach, CA 90808-2242)

MURDER MANIACS - "Black Punk" EP

The MANIACS lean towards the NOMEANSNO/SCHLONG side of punk with a dynamic "adventure" feel. The intro and outro enhance the rest of the EP to create a pseudo-soundtrack. A live show of these exciting rock, surf, punk soundtrack tunes would be easily choreographed into grandiose and bizarre stage theatrics and antics of say... GWAR. Even though the MANIACS don't sound anything like GWAR, they hell of rock! Recommended rockin'. (HM)
(Yasuo Records c/o Yasunari Honda, Ace Mission #2137-20 Yako 5-Chome, Turumi-Ku Yokohama-Shi, Kanagawa 230, JAPAN)

M.Y.C. - "Happiness & Authority" CD

Truly rockin', melodic hardcore from Australia. Sort of a cross between NAKED RAYGUN and early NO USE FOR A NAME, with a dash of DAYSPRING thrown in for good measure. Now add to this some of the most intelligent and insightful lyrics I've read in a long time and you got yourself a winner. As an added bonus, M.Y.C. has one of those vocalists who can carry a tune while still sounding like he's singing with a mouth full of glass. (JF)
(Custom Records, no address)

NAIVE - CD

Melodic punk by way of Russia about a lot of stuff, I'm sure, but unfortunately the lyric sheet was in Russian. I think I'm going to listen to this about a thousand times and maybe, like the groundbreaking theory put forth by "linguistics" professor Noam Chomsky, the way in which all languages are connected will become apparent to me. If that becomes the case I will get back to you with those lyrics, and perhaps a more detailed review. Ummm, probably not, but I can tell you that this record is well done and well produced. Mix some of that Fat Wreck sound with some of that sXe guitar stuff and you're on the right track. Guys who play their instruments this well should probably play another, it just sounds more punk that way. (JV)
(121309 Moscow, Feelee, DK Gorbunova, RUSSIA)

NARSAAK - "Vatra" EP

The a side of this EP is exactly the kind of evil-tinged, fast paced, undeniably German hardcore that one would expect from this label. Really thick bass that is still able to blaze through and follow the drums and guitar on a very set, direct course. At times I'm reminded of KURT as well as SYSTRAL. The b-side has a single track that makes me do the slow motion head banging thing, which isn't a compliment. (TH)
(Per Koro, Fehrfeld 26, D-28203 Bremen, GERMANY)

NASHVILLE TEENS - "Tobacco Road" EP

A rerecording of their only big U.S. hit that could certainly be worse but doesn't supersede the original. Also contains two live tracks from 1983, a power-poppish take on "Find My Way Back Home" and "Born To Be Wild." Not bad (except for "Born To Be Wild," which should probably only be covered if your band is named after a musical instrument and something along the lines of canis lupis, canis rufus or canis niger). I'd advise you to get the JERRY LEE LEWIS live in Germany LP with the original NASHVILLE TEENS instead. (DD)
(Butt Records Ltd., 27 Aylmer Road, London W12 9LG, UK)

NASHVILLE PUSSY - "Let Them Eat Pussy" LP

It's always nice to review something you've already got at home, means it won't be hard to find, and you know you like it. It seems like this band came out of nowhere last year and caused a major scene in no time. With damn good reason, they rock *oh so* hard. Best band Am-Rep's seen in a while. The live shows appeal to lively drunks with their sex appeal, but it's the momentous raging punk rock nougat center that keeps them coming back. (RY)
(Amphetamine Reptile, 2645 1st Ave. So Minneapolis, MN 55408)

NEOS - "Discography" CD

This is a legitimate release that combines the impossible to find "End All Discrimination" and "Hassibah Gets The Martian Brain" EPs. There is also a track from their recently released "Fighting With Donald" EP. If you have never heard the NEOS then it is high time you did. It is fast, raw, chaotic hardcore from the early '80s that has influenced a million bands since then. As it says in the liner notes, "Where were you in '82?" (RC)
(Schizophrenic Records c/o Craig Caron, 50 Fielding Cres, Hamilton, ON, I8V 2P6, CANADA)

N.N.P. - "Branded" CD

German punk rock with bits of BAD RELIGION surfacing here and there. The vocals are sung in English and alternate between Kevin Seconds and the Cookie Monster. (MM)
(Caesar, Försterstr 38, 66111 Saabrücken, GERMANY)

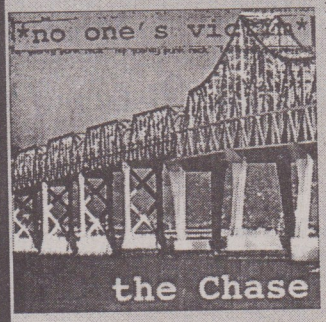
MUSIC REVIEWS

NO ADMISSION - "Equality" EP

This has to be the Swedish bastard of CITIZENS ARREST and EXTREME NOISE TERROR! This is heavy and full sounding, furious hardcore filled with great hooks, a great recording, all within a neat black and white printed foldover sleeve. (PB)
(Crash Mag Records, M. Jansson, Vasterg. 15b, S-63344 Eskilstuna, SWEDEN)

NO LESS - "Boxed In" EP

When I volunteered at Epicenter, any suggestion that NO LESS play a show there would send the elders into shivers and instant vetoes. From this EP I can guess that was because 1) judging from the picture labels, these West Bay Doom Ryderz obviously know how to party, something most Frisco punks can't do and 2) the musical mayhem would surely have dropped Epicenter through the floor into the crappy clothes store beneath, causing a massacre of faux leather jackets. This record is at its best when NO LESS is plowing through songs with super fuzzy guitars, numerous singers going off (my favorite, the squealer), and awesome samples. While I don't like the slow bits very much, they take away very little from this killer. (TH)
(Slap A Ham, PO Box 420843, San Francisco, CA 94142)



NO ONE'S VICTIM - "The Chase" EP

Pelado Records brings you a strong debut effort by a street punk band that has caught the attention of all of Northern California. Playing shows with the WORKIN' STIFFS, ONE MAN ARMY and THE FORGOTTEN amongst others, NO ONE'S VICTIM has cut out their own territory, ascending to the heights previously occupied by the likes of RANCID or the SWINGIN' UTTERS. The record has good vocals, complete with harmonies and tight guitar, bass, drums interplay. "Gunshots and Cries" is a strong punk rock ballad with intelligent lyrics and damn good music! This is the band to watch as 1998 unfolds! (BR)
(Pelado Records, 521 W. Wilson #B202, Costa Mesa, CA 92627)

NO SOLUTION - "7 Miles" EP

Southern California punk rock here, of a HUMPERS sort of variety, if a lot more serious. Decent, mid-tempo, tattooed tough guys reliving 80's punk rock dreams. Not political or angry, just solemn. My only criticism would be that they could lighten up a bit and have a little fucking fun, outside of MOTORHEAD covers. Hey - El Niño pisses me off too, and I'm smilin' through the mud. (RY)
(No Solution, PO Box 4412, Costa Mesa, CA 92628-4412)

OFFDAY - "Abducted By Crustaceans" CD

Alternative rock tendencies are rippled throughout this lobster obsessed release. These guys could easily fit into any modern rock radio format. A handful of songs break loose and have some edge like "God Eats Humans", "Heart of Garlic" and the untitled backwards track, but the highlight is the poppy "Offday" which utilizes a classic early '80s SoCal riff. Pretty dorky. (HM)
(Crusty Records c/o Pure Madness Entertainment, 307-151-10090 152nd St, Surrey, BC, V3R 8X8, CANADA)

OI-MELZ - "Oi-Stress" LP

You gotta guess what they're up to - between naming the band and the record, it's not like it was some kind of mystery. Maybe being so comfortable with the oi tag did them wrong though - there isn't any real sense of urgency with this that would make it memorable. It's midpaced, predictable, and ultimately, forgettable. Do bands like this really deserve an LP? (TM)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 100716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

OI-MELZ - "Keine Zeit" CD

Okay, German skinheads make me a little nervous. Any skinheads make me a little nervous. What can I say? But one guy in the band is wearing an anti-racist shirt and they chose to use purple and yellow for their record cover. All the songs are upbeat catchy punk tunes that will appeal to SCREECHING WEASEL fans. The vocals are gruff and throaty. In a lot of ways, they remind me more of LEATHERFACE than BLITZ. Pretty decent all around, especially the theme song. (LH)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 100716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

OIL - "Falling Behind" EP

This is a nice change for me. OIL are melodic straight edge, and their vocal sound is like that of early YOUTH of TODAY and SHELTER. I like this because it is catchy, and it is melodic which most sXe bands aren't. OIL aren't wimpy though, they go nuts at the right time with the sing alongs and fingerpoints. (LU)
(Commitment Records, Klein Muiden 38, 1393 RL Nigtevecht, HOLLAND)

1-4-5's - "Rock 'N Roll Spook Party" 10"

Boom-diddy, boom-diddy, boom-diddy. Hey, the BRENTWOODS are long gone, so these Texas cats have taken the cutesy-pie mantel upon theyselves. It's like the lo-fi garage version of Tab™; it's easy to drink and it probably won't hurt you but it leaves no traces of its passage either. This is high-concept punk, like "Dumb and Dumber", or "Twins". (RW)
(Estrus Records)

OPERATION GOMORRHA - "Born In '64/Nationale Volksarmee"

I was born in '70 and I still look way older than these guys - your first clue that this is a reissue from 1984, an era when Ronald Reagan provided inspiration for thousands of punk rock anthems and bands were described in MRR reviews as "ripping political thrash". Fourteen years later bands are singing punk rock anthems about getting laid, Reagan has advanced Alzheimers, and bands are still described in MRR as "ripping political thrash". "Born in '64" is their fast "war" (Vietnam) song, while "Nationale Volksarmee" is slower, moodier, and has lyrics about "no corned beef in East Berlin / no coffee and no beans". I can see what they were so pissed about. Good enough European punk that sounds like one of the less-memorable bands off the old "P.E.A.C.E." comp. (JH)
(Gabba Gabba Hey Records, Rübenkamp 5, Hamburg, GERMANY)

MUSIC REVIEWS

PANIC - "Gremlin Generation" CD

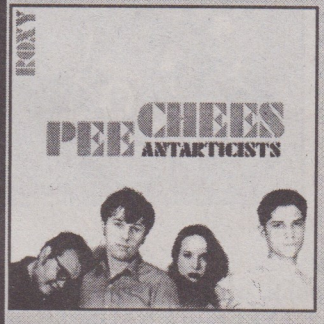
This is great old school punk from three Limeys. I think it's awesome and if this recording is any indication I bet PANIC are a great live band. (HD)
(Phoenix Records, PO Box 226, Barnet, EN5 5SS, UK)

PATRIOT - "Cadence From The Streets" LP

Well, I've heard most of this bands other stuff and I must admit I've never been impressed by any of it. This, a repress of their CD that came out on GMM awhile back if I'm not mistaken, does nothing to change that. There's a couple of cool songs on here but for the most part these guys sound like RED ALERT's recent (i.e. bad) material, ROSE TATTOO's weaker stuff or THE COCKNEY REJECTS after they dropped the first half of their name and got all wanky, wanky to the point of being unlistenable. "Here comes the new punk!". Not on this release. (RM)
(Knockout Records, Postfatch 10 07 16, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

PAUL DIAMOND BLOW - "Wang Dang Sweet Thunder Of Rock" CD

Some '70s glam thing, that only sort of rocks. The guy can play and the band is cool, got the sound down. The vocals just really bite bad! It must suck to want to be a rock and roll star when you can't sing for shit. The only route to take is punk rock where it doesn't matter. But there's just no way to pull off PAUL STANLEY (incidentally the rhythm guitarists name) when you sound like this guy. A for effort. (RY)
(Killing Pig Records, 322 N. 74th St., Seattle, WA 98103)



PEECHEES - "Antarticists/Love Is The Law"

If you don't like "Antacticists" you don't like punk. In fact, you might not even be alive. It's that fucking good. THE PEECHEES have always been one of the best punk bands in the Bay Area. But this single is the best thing that they've ever done. The a-side is by far and away the best thing on their new LP and the b-side is pop as hell and as good as the original by the SUBURBS. (LH)
(Roxy Records, no address)

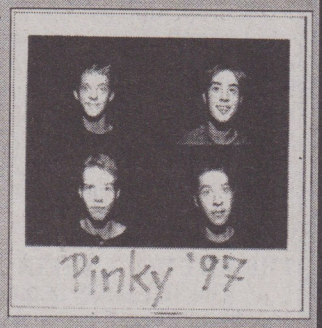
THE PHANTOM RATS - "Kiss Me Now" CD

The CD says file under "Crazy! Wild!! Jap-o-Phonic Punk Rock!!" This description is right on target. Rad garage style punk that sounds like a Japanese version of the DEVIL DOGS or the Japanese band the JET BOYS. Killer! (TG)
(1+2 Records, Clean Nishi-Shinjuku 7-5-6, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160, JAPAN)

LOS PINKOS - "Girl Krazy" EP

This has that late '70s American punk sound that drives the record collectors krazy. The title track sounds a bit like REAL KIDS or DMZ. The other 3 tracks remind me of punk shows at the Mabuhay 20 years ago. Too bad the production isn't a little more powerful. (MC)
(Pelado Records, 521 W. Wilson #B202, Costa Mesa, CA 92627)

PINKY/MIXELPRICKS - split EP



Starting with the PINKY side, I have to say that this band is pretty damn good. They remind me of the BEATNIK TERMITES with the singer for the MCRACKINS on vocals. This is some grade A pop-punk that is very catchy and well worth checking out. As for the MIXELPRICKS, they've changed a bit. I was just listening to their "Suck Live" EP on which they sounded exactly like SCREECHING WEASEL. But now I'd say they sound a little more like SICKO mixed with a little LONGFELLOW. Thick and catchy pop-punk that is pleasing to the ear. Both bands rock so buy this, you can't lose. (AT)
(Atreyu Records, E. Oakwood Rd, Oak Creek, WI 53154)

POBLERS UNITED - "Full Contact" EP

More hard hitting street punk out of Germany. On this release you'll find three cuts that sound like COMBAT 84 or LAST RESORT at their best and a slower, ska influenced pub-rock number which moves along nicely. Good stuff. (RM)
(Knockout Records, Postfatch 10 07 16, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

THE PROSTITUTES - "Twenty-two" EP

Good ol' boy, straight forward '80s style punk rock from back in the day when hardcore didn't mean crusty. Even though they're from the East Coast they remind me of old East Bay stuff. Snotty and mean, these guys aren't taking any shit from nobody, lucky for me this is an awesome record and I don't have to give them any. Very rockin'. With the luck I'm having this month, I'm not surprised there's no reviewer's copy. (HD)
(Black Hole Records, 12 W. Willow Grove Ave #130 Philadelphia, PA 19118)

THE PUSHERS - "Hard Times" EP

Featuring one-time SHATTERED FAITH vocalist, Spencer Bartsch, these guys spit out three cuts in the traditional SoCal HC style: mid-tempo, straight forward, lots of guitar and quality vocals. While the record is technically superior, it also seems to lack a little soul. It almost seems as if it's a little too easy for these guys, like they're going through the motions. (KK)
(Hostage Records, 7826 Seaglen Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92648)

THE QUADRAJETS - "Pay The Deuce" LP

The liner notes on this LP are lame, "it's the end of the millennium so lets mix genres because it's post-everything". I don't think so, jazz sucks, period. BLACK FLAG went jazz later in their career and that was the end of them. the QUADRAJETS think they're MC5 and the BLUE CHEER, well, they think wrong. (EC)
(Estrus Records)

MUSIC REVIEWS

RADICAL NOISE - "14 More Reasons To Burn Us Down" CD

This really wasn't something that I could even get into. It's hardcore I suppose, but kinda mid tempo to slow guitar wanky wanky stuff. The vocals are that forced gruff thing that those pathetic "hate-edge" turds try to pull off in order to sound "hard". Really leaves a bad aftertaste that makes you sick every time you think about it afterwards, sorta like Robotussin does. Pretty disappointing CD from a label that's put out such great stuff as MAN IS THE BASTARD and ASSUCK. (PB)
(S.O.A. Records c/o Paolo Petralia, Via Oderisi Gubbio 67/69, 00146 Roma, ITALY)

THE RAT HOLE SHEIKHS - "Mad Cow Disease" CD

The SHEIKHS manage to get 74 minutes of mostly mediocre obscure low-fi tunes. At times they sound like the CRAMPS, but they range from gruff garagey punk to plodding blues and rock. My favorite tunes are the surfy "Shadale (reprise)" and western flavored "He's a Norwegian Cowboy". Thumbs up to the hideous cover and layout. (HM)
($16 ppd: Silly Moo Records c/o Mike McCann, Elinsborgsbacken 18, S-163 64 Spånga, SWEDEN)

THE REAL KIDS - "Now You Know/Who Needs Ya"

Now this is an easy one!!!!!! Thank god fer all this reissue shit!!!!! I'm not going to get into the history of the REAL KIDS..... I figure this, If you're not hip to 'em already, then it ain't yer time fer 'em..... the word's on the street..... learn it there!!!!!!! But fer you fans, Dog Meat records has just put out a couple of cool REAL KIDS singles that'll get you making out heavy in the back of yer car!!!!!!! You know, that great kinda romantic type rockin' that the REAL KIDS know how to do..... stuff you sing to yer girl on a date.... right before you fuck the living shit outta her!!!!!!!! The A side is a studio track.... the B side is a live cut.... I think it's taken off that live Norton LP, but don't hold me to that..... 'nuff said.... god, what a shitty record review... (SW)
(Dog Meat, GPO Box 2366v, Melbourne 3001, AUSTRALIA)

THE REAL KIDS - "Bad To Worse/My Baby's Book"

Boston's REAL KIDS demonstrate their irresistible brand of snot-nosed punk here, a live single that shows the band in all their '78 glory. This crisp, well-balanced recording (limited to 1000 copies) offers two solid tracks, both of which will appeal to any fan of vintage R'n'B-styled punk rock. Sounds fresh even after 20 years. Recommended. (SS)
(Dog Meat, GPO Box 2366V, Melbourne 3001, AUSTRALIA)

RECTIFY/KURU - split EP

This month is a good one for reviews! The RECTIFY side of this is hardcore to the max! They combine old school, and fast grind to make a cool sound. Some metal going on as well which makes me feel 12 again. The KURU side is equally appealing. They are a little faster, and more on the straight grind side. Their band name also is a disease that you get form eating human brains. As the disease progresses, you laugh yourself to death. I kid you not. (LU)
(Inflammable Material, PO Box 2544, London, NW6 3DF, UK)

RED LONDON - "Days Like These" LP

Man, is this really good. These very large men play super tasteful oi with a strong pop edge. The vocalist sings in a, shall I dare to say, soulful and unusually 'nice' voice. Don't let that chase you away, this record is addictive sounding. The production is really reverb thick and great. Fans of oi, do not miss! Can I say how good this is again. Thick vinyl to boot. (TG)
(Knockout Records, Postfatch 10 07 16, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

THE RICKETS/NEUROTIKS - split EP

THE NEUROTIKS turn in four songs of run-of-the-mill Riot City, glue sniffing type punk with pretty bad sound. Not terrible, but in the end disposable. THE RICKETS side starts off with two so-so thrash/skate rock numbers. On the last two songs they slow things down and crank out two excellent '77 style punk tunes, "I Wanna Be British" and "Blank". Worth it for those two tunes. (RM)
(United Kids Records, 9328 Raintree Rd, Burke, VA 22015)

THE ROBOTS - "Go Go Go" EP

From Sweden and recorded in '95, these guys play traditional, sometimes MISFITS influenced (particularly the kinda-sorta gloomy vocals/moans), punk-rock with just a hint of '60s psych-punk. Three tracks, all of which are at least decent. Good, but not indispensable. (KK)
(Psychout Records, Box 255, 11479 Stockholm, SWEDEN)

RUNT - "Go The Whole Hog" LP

Fifteen songs of tight P.C. punk, with musical influences ranging from anything from WAT TYLER to CHAOS U.K. or BROKEN BONES, which incidentally comes conveniently inside a thick ass heavy stock chipboard sleeve that's hand silk screened. Mighty fucking political stuff and most of it's considered fairly correct. (PB)
(Human Error Records, PO Box 751, Brunswick LWR, Vic 3056, AUSTRALIA)

RUPTURE - "Freudstien's House" EP

This record is right on the borderline of being tolerable. Nothing fantastic but good sloppy punk. Then I read the lyrics about showing a 'queer' no mercy and kicking in his head. You lose assholes, fuck off and disappear. Your lyrics suck and your benefit of the doubt is gone, your music sucks, too. (TG)
(Regurgitated Semen Records, Str des Friedens 45, 07819 Mittelpollnitz, GERMANY)

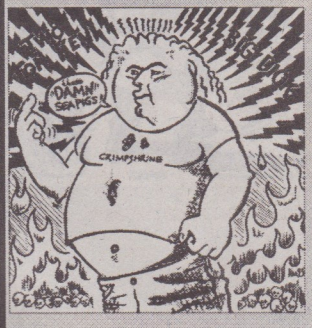
MUSIC REVIEWS

SCARED OF CHAKA/ FLAKE MUSIC - split EP

Two great bands from New Mexico on this split. SCARED OF CHAKA doing their spastic punk thing and FLAKE MUSIC (formerly FLAKE, not the bad Seattle band) do an indie pop/pop punk thing that can be pretty great. I guess they haven't put much out over the years though or I'm outta touch. Anyway, a good split. (RL)
(702 Records, PO Box 204, Reno, NV 89504)

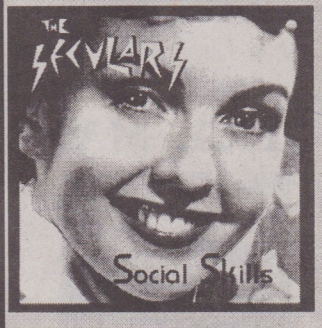
SCREECHING WEASEL - "Major Label Debut" 12"

This is vintage-sounding WEASEL that won't disappoint fans of their early days. Six snappy songs that have the usual Ben bite, this time taking on generic DIY bands that suck, compact disks, Larry Livermore, racism, etc. Good political (that's right, I said "political") lyrics. Sounds like Ben's rebirth or something. (TY)
(Lookout Records)



SEA PIGS/FAR - split EP

The first SEA PIGS track sorta sounds like a punk version of "Ghostriders In The Sky" with a touch of ROCKET. The second is more of a straight up punker tune with some quirky change-ups in the music. Nice and short. FAR pay tribute to MADONNA with a version of "Live To Tell" that starts off sounding like NEUROSIS. Pretty funny actually. (LH)
(Our Own Records, 4728 8th Ave, Sacramento, CA 95820)



SECULARS - "Social Skills" EP

Very strange, the wave has turned back on itself. This is an American band that sounds like TEENGENERATE! Firstly, I would like to heartily applaud the new trend toward longer EPs, it will hopefully cut down on some of that record-ten-songs-for-five-labels bullshit that is totally ruining the seven inch in every genre you can name. This one is a five-songer, the KIRKS EP was a seven-songer, Estrus is putting out a butt-load of solid four-songers ... damn straight! This EP's got strong songs on both sides, wall-of-fuzz production that doesn't sound canned, and a good whiny singer who follows the whip-along guitar-buzz nicely. Well, this is the best single I've heard yet on this label. (RW)
(360 Twist, PO Box 9367, Denver, CO 80209)

SENZA SICURA - "Piu Di 1000" CD

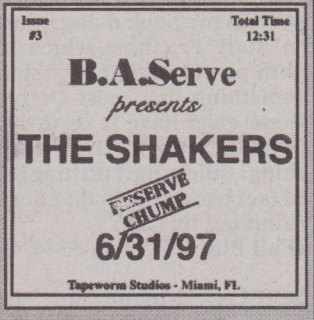
I've never been real big on foreign language stuff. Call me close minded but that's the way it goes. But this great Italian punk (vocals in Italian) won me over immediately. Emotional vocals with old school production. Think ANGELIC UPSTARTS or CLASH and from the looks of the social political-esque pictures in the insert, I don't think they're bitching about the rising cost of Sony Play Station lyric-wise. A little pop, a little ska, and a lotta punk. Very cool. (RL)
(Gridalo Forte Records, Via Dei Marsi 52, 00185 Roma, ITALY)

SEVEN HATE - "Buddled" CD

This French band deals mostly in fast, upbeat punk with just a touch of that ever present pop factor. It has a nice feel to it. There's lots of energy, and the drummer keeps everything moving at a lively clip. The vocals and back ups float above the melodic noise real well, too. Good. (BG)
(Vicious Circle Records, B21, F 33151 Cenon Cedex, FRANCE)

SEVENTEEN YEARS - "...Please Stop That" EP

Strangely dissonant male/female doubled vocals and country tinges make me wonder whether this is the inbred FLEETWOOD MAC of the 21st Century. If there was a best song, it would have to be the diluted, bar-rock ditty "Dirty Old Town". Good for conservative singles bar types. (HM)
($3 ppd: They Still Make Records, 1349 W Taylor 3R, Chicago, IL 60607)



THE SHAKERS - "Reserve Chump" EP

The artwork parodies that VML live series for some reason, but this is a studio effort. The music is melodic punk rock, like Lookout circa '92, and fairly good. (MC)
(Brown & Serve Records, 292 Sunshine Dr, Coconut Creek, FL 33066)

SISTER RAISIN - "Where Are You" CD

A trombone kicks into a funny ripoff of a French folk song. The cutesy rhymes and borderline annoying sustained words dart in and out of these playful, goofy punk ditties. SISTER RAISIN manage to sneak a couple toe tappin' new wave tunes into this 9 song CD. One of their moms even sewed 200 limited edition felt CD cases (adjust the tension for a cleaner more even stitch). Some of the lyrics borderline college geek core with themes like evolution, college lectures and a blood infomercial. Wacky, eclectic pop punk. (HM)
(Le Roy Records, PO Box 845, Normal, IL 61701)

SLIGHT SLAPPERS/SHORT HATE TEMPER - split LP

Balls-to-the-wall thrash that doesn't let up until the last drop of blood hits the floor. Lesser bands should give up now and crawl back into the shithole they came from. This fucking pegs my rage meter to 10! Now I'm going to go kick somebody's ass. (RC)
(Sound Pollution, PO Box 17742, Covington, KY 41017)

MUSIC REVIEWS

SMASHDOWN - "Punk Rock School Of Bartending" EP

This is pretty good, with seemingly intelligent lyrics, and a high energy pop punkish sound. It's coming across records like this that restores a sometimes dwindling faith which is brought about by the onslaught of so many boring punk seven inches. (HD)
(Smashdown, 8362 Tamanack Village #119-123, St. Paul, MN 55125)

SMUT PEDDLERS - "Freedom" CD

This is a tough one to call because here you have a record by a band that plays a CIRCLE JERKS, DRAIN BRAMAGED style of music - which I like - then sings lyrics that make you cringe. At first I thought maybe they were making an attempt at sarcasm, ala SCREECHING WEASEL'S "I Wanna Be A Homosexual", but eventually I had to give into the fact that these guys must be F.B.I. agents sent in to infiltrate the punk community. Homophobia runs rampant on this CD, and unfortunately in many corners of the global punk community, but I think most of us strive for opinions less reactionary than that. "Freedom" here means to be able to say what you want even if it is about thirty years behind the times. (JV)
(Ransom Records, 1525 Aviation Bl. #289, Redondo Beach, CA 90278)

SOY - "Tales From Tofugraphic Oceans" EP

This is pretty interesting. If I didn't know better, I would think that this is SPAZZ. SOY isn't nearly as heavy, but they come close. Lyrics, vocals, it all says SPAZZ. So, I think that they rip 'em off, but I also think that they aren't that bad sounding. Like I said, this is pretty interesting. (LU)
(Sensitive Thespians Records, 302-2634 Quadra St., Victoria, BC, V8T 4E4, CANADA)

SPEED STICK/WAGON - "Damage Report" EP

Split of two Iowa type bands, SPEED STICK does pretty good in my book doing a sorta FLUID (remember them) 'Punch 'n' Judy' era thing, which is somewhat STOOGIAN in scope but with plenty of that sexy shuck n' jive along with the firepower, something that most Detroit wannabees lack. In other words, these guys have it in their gut not just in their guitar amps. WAGON does the whole NO TREND/SWANS/SLINT thing: quiet angst turning into noisy angst, lotsa angst as a matter of fact backed with that mandatory guitar/bass drone. Not a bad sampling this. (JY)
(Full Blare, PO Box 5344, Sioux City, IA 51102)

SPILLS - "Mondo Cane" CD

A very-well produced piece of digital 'punk' that makes me think of the 'street' punk bands that could end up on the Warped Tour. Good looking guys singing rapido-strum songs about forlorn love and the loser ethic. Think SOCIAL DISTORTION without the country. The HUMPERS without the songs. The audience on the CD booklet are all standing with their arms folded or chewing on their fingers, OK? (RW)
(Stiff Pole Records, PO Box 20721, St. Petersburg, FL 33742)

SPLURGE - "Exit/Stretch" EP

More punchy pop punk coming your way. This isn't so bad. It sorta reminds me of an American SNUFF or early JAWBREAKER. "Television on... I'm off" is a great song. If only they keep pushing into new areas with their songs (as in this one), they'll be a force to be reckoned with. (BG)
(Traffic Violation Records, PO Box 772, E Setauket, NY 11733)

SPIRIT OF '88/DA REAL DEAL - split EP

This came out in the middle of last year, so we are a little behind on this one. SPIRIT OF '88 take a mix of oi and old school NYHC which brings WARZONE to mind. DA REAL DEAL cranks out some generic moshcore, full of a chugga here and a chugga there. This is decent, but really simple. By the way, don't you find it funny that a bunch of honky hardcore kids from the East Coast call each other 'nigga'? (RC)
(Back Ta Basics, 79 3rd. Ave 2nd floor, Paterson, NJ 07514)

SPRAVNY SMER - "The Reality Of Native Inhabitants Of The Rainforests" EP

What would otherwise be generic hardcore is enhanced by the work of an inspired drummer who appears at times to be playing a different song, resulting in unusual rhythms and structures and making the music sound fresher than it otherwise might. I've often said that a great drummer can save any band... Anyway, thrashy hardcore from Slovakia with lyrics translated into English. (AM)
(Forest Records c/o Hideyuki Okahara, Ceramica 2 #301, 2-1-37, Minami Kokobunji, Tokyo 185, JAPAN)

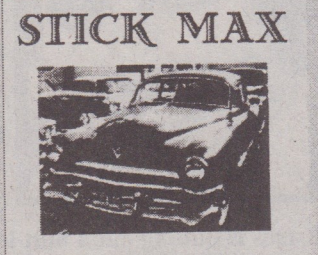
SQUIGGY/THE OI! SCOUTS - split EP

Mother fuckers ready to boot some heads. SQUIGGY's wants to do some damage to those money grubbing lawyers, lifeless junkies and business men. Working class pub oi. Sing along with a pint for a good time. The OI! SCOUTS are just ready for a fight in true skinhead mentality. Punked out macho oi. (TJ)
($3 ppd: Squigtone Records, 166 Spring St., Newton, NJ 07860)

STAGE BOTTLES - "Take That!" EP

Some stripped down, mid-tempo Euro punk. Good female/male vocals and some saxophone weaving it's way around. Reminds me of Scottish band SAD SOCIETY, without the lead guitar. Features smash Nazis bulldog logo on back cover. (TB)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 100 716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

STICK MAX - "It's Not Big Around, But It's Short" EP



(It's not big around, but it's short)

Triumphant hardcore with metal-ish guitar leads and 80's SoCal vocals. "Oh Silly Me" shines as the hit with relentless guitar leads complimenting the sassy lyrics which start jerking tears when we realize that their cat is "found...lying dead in the road...(and) won't be eating all of this (stolen) food...". Decent debut. (HM)
(Eerie Records, 2408 Peach St, Erie, PA 16502)

MUSIC REVIEWS

STRATFORD MERCENARIES - "Live In The U.S.A. 1997" EP

STRATFORD MERCENARIES are, of course, the band fronted by CRASS' Steve Ignorant, which means some of the best lyrics since his days with CRASS. It's not easy to leave out just what is needed to still communicate your point clearly, just listen to most political punk records today for proof of that point. Steve Ignorant manages to do this without sounding like he wants you to infer everything from some minimalist, abstractly constructed rant. The record sounds damn good for a live record and STRATFORD MERCS don't ever sound like they're attempting to rehash the CRASS past. Simple arrangement is all that is needed, sounds a little like 4 SKINS, when you have lyrics such as exhibited here, and those lyrics are a reassurance that some punks really are in it for life. (JV)
(79 Ham Pk Rd, London E15 4AD, UK)

SUPERFAN - "Fuck You" EP

Never a bad place to start in naming something, I guess! Thick, coarse and punishing punk from Germany - powerful songwriting, dense production and some searing guitar. Great when they use both vocalists - something catchier about the choruses when they're forced on you. I'm definitely down with this - it's got everything I like about good rock, but it's not slow or, well, rock. Excellent. (TM)
(Heartfirst Records, Böckhstr. 39, 10967 Berlin, GERMANY)

SUPERFAN - "Out Of Style" EP

Amped-up, full tilt, BLACK FLAG meets NOMEANSNO high energy punk rock. Six songs, all winners. Can't really fault this - meaty sounding, bass heavy, and the singer's yelling himself hoarse... one of the best of '98 so far. (AM)
(Heartfirst Records, Böckhstr. 39, 10967 Berlin, GERMANY)

SWOONS - "Japanese Killer Drops" CD

I don't understand this band at all. The record is covered with 'rising suns', they have a song called "Kamikaze Sushi Girl" and check the title. Yet, they're German! It increases the comedy of this record, I guess. Sort of like a hardcore version of HELEN LOVE or THE CHUBBIES. Every song is catchy as hell and upbeat. I think I'm gonna go back and reevaluate their last few records. (LH)
1+2 Records, Clean Nishi-shinjuku Bldg., Nishi-shinjuku 7-5-6, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160, JAPAN)

TAMPERE SS - "Sotaa" EP

Bare bones Finnish thrash from 1983, re-released fifteen years later to teach you all how it should be done. Seven songs of political hardcore that totally stands the test of time, with lyrics about war, government and television. Cool. (AM)
(Havoc, PO Box 8585, Minneapolis, MN 55408)

T.B.C - "Atompilz" EP

Old washing machines being thrown at cops in full riot gear for Chaos Day '84 in Hanover, and seeing punks with barbed wire tattoos around their neck, that was the punkest thing I've ever witnessed. T.B.C later evolved into PORNO PATROL whom I've seen live and they kicked ass. This is vintage early '80s Euro punk, before the US hardcore-fun-bands came to Europe and diluted the scene. Fuck you Americans, you ruined everything! (EC)
(Very Good Records c/o Thomas Eicken, Middlendorfstr 3, Dortmund D-44137, GERMANY)

THOSE UNKNOWN - "No Prevail" LP

THOSE UNKNOWN's particular style of working class oi is such a challenge. Their lyrics have a sad intensity - it's not all pub-songs and the 'kicking in of teeth'. The previously released "No Time Nor Place" is quite catchy; as is "Another Face In The Crowd." But the remainder of this LP drifts pretty far afield of the STIFF LITTLE FINGERS influence on their earlier stuff. It's dark and moody, and somehow more appropriate to the times than rehashed lager ballads. (GS)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 100716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

THOSE UNKNOWN - "No Prevail" LP

This is more of a punk album than an oi record, and a good one it is. Besides progressive lyrics and liner notes, the music catches me on just about every song. Definitely a cut above from this now retired NJ outfit. (TY)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 100716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

JOHNNY THUNDERS - "Dawn Of The Dolls" CD

I bought this thing mail order because I'm a fan. You know what fucking 'fan' stands for, right? Asshole. Only an asshole like me can listen to this total dribbling shit and still think it's redeemable. You get shaky, half-speed versions of the classic NEW YORK DOLLS songs recorded before Johansen joined. We're talking 1971 here, Johnny plunking away scree-scree-wail, Billy Murcia whacking away kinda randomly, Arthur Kane somewhere in the mix ... and I think it's great! I wish it was on vinyl, it would be a perfect bootleg with a shit-xerox sleeve. Anyway, a total 'caveat-emptor' situation, only drooling morons like you need apply. (RW)
(Fab Discs, no address)

TILT - "Gun Play" EP

Well yeah, this is TILT alright. Same pop punk/rock/'77 era stuff they do so well. The title song rocks well enough and is very catchy, but the other two are not as instantly memorable. It's still worthwhile, and the vocals always keep things unpredictable and interesting. (BG)
(Fat Wreck Chords, PO Box 193690, San Francisco, CA 94119)

MUSIC REVIEWS

TIME BOMB 77 - "Protect And Serve" LP

This Atlanta, Georgia cider punk band is now defunct, but they left us some decent punk rock memories. This gritty punk LP was released on GMM on CD format previously. This is fast, angry punk with lyrics about evil policemen and greedy politicians. SUBMACHINE fans will want this LP. (BR)
(Knockout Records, Postfach 100716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

TIMEBOMB 77 - "The American Way" EP

Well, they say these Atlanta cider punx have broken up, and this is their last record. It is a fitting farewell and more inspired than their last album. It starts off with an upbeat thrasher, moves into a couple of strong mid-tempo numbers, and ends with a very good cover of CHRON GEN's "Outlaw". They remind me of BUZZCRUSHER from Texas, without the metal guitar bits. They broke up, too. No lyric sheet. (TB)
($3.50 ppd: Black Hole Records, 12 W. Willow Grove Ave. Box 130, Philadelphia, PA 19118)

TITANS - "Instant Disasters" LP

I expected TEENGENERATE, but I all I got was TEENGENERATE playing the "Beverly Hillbillies" theme. "Cowpunk" may have died the death fifteen years ago, but the TITANS have channeled its spirit, and crossed it with post-REGISTRATORS Japanese basement punk. Weird as hell, but it still sounds great - high energy, breakneck stuff with the occasional country twang, produced by Fink of TEENGENERATE infamy. Call me a stooge, but I even dig the X cover on side two ("Motel Room in My Bed"), along with their takes on the STANDELLS and the COUNT BACKWURDS. The perfect soundtrack for your next hayride over the edge of a cliff. (JH)
(Lance Rock Records, 1223 College Dr., Nanaimo, BC, V9R 5Z5, CANADA)

TORCHES TO ROME - "Mass For The Dead" LP

Merely mentioning this band around avid readers of *HeartattaCk* fanzine is sure to send them into strange fits of glee, a response I always found a bit strange. Granted, TORCHES TO ROME was an incredible band. Lyrically, the 'scene' was as likely to be questioned and attacked as were those of the 'outside world' that have determined how things are to work. Musically, they produced a hardcore sound that was really fresh without going off into some strange art direction, melding ugly vocals and distortion with melodic hardcore influences. This record will be on or next to my turntable for months to come. But can all this really explain the kinda creepy instant popularity this band received? I guess you had to be at the 1996 More Then Music Fest answering one bizarre question after another from glassy eyed fans of a band they hadn't ever heard to understand my question. (TH)
(Ebullition, PO Box 680, Goleta, CA 93155)

TOTALLIES - "Drunk Over You" EP

These guys are cool. They sound like FIGHTING CAUSE mixed with FIFTEEN and SWINDLE. Or even AGENT GLITTER (who I review in this issue as well). All in all, a great record. They've also got some pretty cool tunes on their "Breakup" EP. Check this out. Check that out. Or check yourself into a mental institution, punk!
Blue vinyl! (AT)
(Braindart Records, PO Box 202, New Almaden, CA 95042)

TOXIC BONKERS - "If The Dead Could Talk" CD

Poland's BONKERS is floating somewhere in that gray area between DOOM-esue crustcore and TASTE OF FEAR death metal. You know the combo: good lyrics, midpace E.N.T beats, but with a little double bass and a low tuned guitar to keep this in the metal department. (MW)
($8 ppd: SOA Records c/o Paolo Petralia, Via Oderisi da Gubbio 67/69, 00146 Roma, ITALY)

TOXIC NARCOTIC - "You Wreckt'em" CD

Seven songs of dirty, mid-paced, and raw hardcore that's got some throaty vocals (a la CAPITAL PUNISHMENT). Songs about how fucked junkies, jocks, college kids, parasites, sell-out punk bands, and corporate burger joints are. Fuckin' a, this is as punk as it gets. (MW)
(Rodent Popsicle Records, PO Box 335, Newton Center, MA 02159)

TOXXIC TV - "Yes Future" CD

French pop punk with a edge. There's more than just puff here, but it does have those melodic elements, as well. This is influenced by a bunch of different styles that are hard to place. Some songs have HC build ups/breakdowns and others seem to be influenced by mid-'80s SoCal pop punk. (TJ)
(Autotomie Label, 11 Rue de Dijon, 44800 St. Herblain, FRANCE)

TRIAL - "Trial" 10"

TRIAL has been attracting a lot of attention ever since their "Through the Darkest.."EP released awhile back. The 10" delivers 6 songs with side A offering 3 songs on a more "new school" metal straight edge tip, while the flip (and the better of the two) offers 3 songs of high energy, speedy straight edge. I'm at a lost right now, because I believe some of the songs have been released as extra tracks on CD versions of their older releases. If you never heard em before, this is a good release to start with because it shows where they came from and where their going.(MW)
(Jawk, 5145 N. Bridges Dr., Atlanta, GA 30202)

THE TROUBLE - "Crime And Punishment" EP

This new GMM Records 7" by THE TROUBLE is the mother-fucking guns! These guys start off slow and escalate the street punk to extreme levels. Excellent playing with bruising vocals and exacting harmonies make this one of GMM's best current releases. The entire record comes to a resounding "smash" with the final track "Saturday's Kids", which gives voice to the commitment and the pride of today's street-punks. This record is *highly* recommended! (BR)
(GMM Records, PO Box 15234, Atlanta, GA 30333)

MUSIC REVIEWS

THE TURPENTINES - "Give This!" EP

If I didn't already know these guys were from Sweden, I'd think they were from Canada. Similar in sound to THE MANTS, THE VON ZIPPERS and a sampling of THE SPACESHITS. Cool garage punk that would probably knock you out live. (CK)
(Freakscene Records, S:t Eriksgaten 64, S-113 20 Stockholm, SWEDEN)

THE TWERPS/SHOWCASE SHOWDOWN - split EP

The SHOWCASE SHOWDOWN are so tough they would push their own grandmother down a flight of stairs! I mean, grr! Very raucous, kinda like one of those pub-style garage rock bands. Impressive guitar style, sticking to the hard basics and only occasionally busting into some fancy lead—the way a discerning guitarist should. "Model Citizen" sounds like the SEX PISTOLS - har! THE TWERPS are goofy. Helium-inflected vocals, jangly guitar, fast songs. Lyrics are irreverent and funny, except for that "Queerbait" song which is irreverent and stupid and was followed by some embarrassingly feeble disclaimer. I mean, woo! wipe the drool off your chin, boy! Regardless, this is a really great seven inch. 21-gun salute and all that. (JN)
(702 Records, PO Box 204, Reno, NV 89504)

THE UBANGIS - "Drop Another Coin" CD

Fun surf music with a vocalist who is trying to sound spooky. He has lots of reverb on his voice so he sounds like that guy who used to host your elementary school's Halloween parties. I also like the schtick of having the band name included in the title of every other song. (CK)
($10 ppd: Trash Palace, PO Box 2565, Silver Spring, MD 20915.)

THE ULTIMATICS - "They're All Creeps" EP

First of all, I'd like to mention that this seven inch came with a very polite letter from the band. The letter expresses the band's wishes for their Pittsburgh address to be listed. You can write them at 2637 So 18th St. #2, Pittsburgh, PA 15210. Apparently, the ULTIMATICS were also on the "Iron City Punk II" comp which has no contact listed on it. Angelo says if anybody wants to get a hold of any of the bands on that comp, just write to him in Pittsburgh and he'll be sure to take care of it. With that out of the way, I'll tell you that this seven inch is a keeper. It's raw, it's loud, and it rocks. (HD)
(Dim Records, Postfach 1718, D-96407 Coburg, GERMANY)

URBN DK/LOS SUBVERSIVOS - split EP

This split EP consists of two very political bands, one hailing from the States (Illinois) and the other South America (Argentina). URBN DK delivers passionate political lyrics over some 'take no prisoners' - except cops - thrash arrangements. I like this effort equally as much as their split with BITCH SLAP, and a little better than their EP on Beer City Records, "Victim-Inside". The difference here, as opposed to the others, would be the directness of the lyrics politically, which can be overdone, but not in this case. LOS SUBVERSIVOS are punk without losing their South American roots. The lyrics are about things such as police raids and revolutionaries, and they are sung in Spanish. There is a more traditional sounding South American song here, which turns into, at the end, a traditional old school punk song. For those of you who actually listen to lyrics, this is a can't miss. (JV)
(Small Budget Records, BP #7, 78110 LeVesnet, FRANCE)

VANILLA POD - "Trigger" CD

How many post-emo songs are there in this world called "Understand"? There's probably one for every punk song that rhymes "brain" with "insane". VANILLA POD cash in their "Understand" on track two and I like it better than anything else on this record. Really catchy. This record is a lot like what was happening on the West Coast in the late '80s after 7 SECONDS put out "New Wind" and bands like BIG DRILL CAR got going. The band is English so there is a little bit of a MEGA CITY 4 feel on some tunes as well. (LH)
(Them's Good Records, PO Box 8, Corby, Northamptonshire, NN17 2XZ, UK)

THEE VICEROYS - LP

Plenty of these songs sound as though they could have come from the less venomous pages of the BILLY CHILDISH songbook; a lot of R&B based garage, a little full bore punk, some Brit invasion, a somewhat WRAY-ish instro. While it may make this LP sound more derivative than it is, it's certainly going to be of the most interest to CHILDISH fans (who are, in fact, advised to seek this out for a listen). (DD)
(7-10 Split Recordings, PO Box 80065, Minneapolis, MN 55403)

WAR CALLED PEACE - "Everyday War" CD

The '92 LP that these boys put out was quite influenced by later BAD BRAINS in the vocal department and there seemed to be an attempt at that band's guitar style. On this release there is a bit of that influence left but there is a much bigger SoCal melodic hardcore sound that has pretty much taken over. Somewhat catchy and a bit above the pack. I want WAR CALLED PEACE to know that I did them a favor by not mentioning the BOB MARLEY cover. (TH)
(Theologian, PO Box 1070, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254)

MUSIC REVIEWS

WHISPER/ETERNA INOCENCIA - split EP

I was never really quite sure what the term "emo" had meant until now; this will be my reference point from now on. WHISPER has urgent sounding guitars and slow funeral march drums that speed up here and there but keep the feel of the songs very thoughtful without going overboard. In my opinion, anyone who likes RITES OF SPRING will love the designer impostor WHISPER. ETERNA INOCENCIA has become infected with the West Coast Fat Wreck Chords sound, while not going so well with the other, kicks ass in their own right . Very cool to listen to bands from South America with such good energy who are into the different punk styles. (AA)
(SRI Records, CC 213, (1412) Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA)

YANKEE WUSS/WHATSERFACE - split LP

With some what cryptic, ambiguous lyrics with existential themes about the drudgery and mindless routine of modern life, YANKEE WUSS bring home the point with thrashed hardcore that sounds as though it was recorded on a cheap box. There is a bit of an infectious quality to the trashiness of their performance and production. Even though it's not very inspiring, it manages to have it's moments. The hopeless resolve of YANKEE WUSS is contrasted greatly by the raw and rough mid-paced HC punk of WHATSERFACE. What they lack in slickness is surely made up for in power and effort. Pissed off and clearly articulated, their songs range in topic from battling as a woman against gender roles to identifying as queer, yet feeling alienated by rigid definitions of sexuality. (MK)
(Whatserface, 3639 NE 78, Portland, OR 97213)

YOUTH GONE MAD - "Rotten" EP

One song is very JUDAS PRIEST, the WEIRDOS cover is excellent, love the guitar wall of sound, and the fourth song is sung by a three year old (!). Punk rock from this band whose first release came out in 1982. (EC)
(Panx, PO Box 5058, Toulouse Cedex 5, 31033, FRANCE)

V/A - "All Crusties Spending Loud Night 97" video

Oh man, this is the shit. A four band Japanese hardcore video that documents an above average show. The bands included are CROCODILE SKINK, DISCLOSE, GLOOM (who deliver the best performance I've seen in awhile) and LIFE. The beauty in this little gem of a video is the crowd (violent, drunk and stinky), the bands (again; violent, drunk and stinky) and the club (looks like a tiny little garage turned into a Japanese wrestling ring). American crusties should take notes. (MW)
(Crust War Records, 1306, 1-5-6 Hanazonokita, Nishinari-ku, Osaka-city 557, JAPAN)

V/A - "Au Go Go Records Wish You Good Health, Good Fortune, And Good Music" CD

A Christmas and New Year comp (hey, it made it to me in time for Chinese New Year!) from one of the most superior labels on the planet. Heavy, hard rock sounds abound, even the MONO MEN's track is decidedly wanking with '70s hesher rock appeal. You also get The VON ZIPPERS, WARPED, CHROME CRANKS, the fucking ever-wonderful ONYAS, ASTEROID B-612, MAN OR ASTROMAN, and several more. Only 500 copies, worth seeking out. It's ball busting!! (RY)
(Au Go Go Records, GPO Box 542d, Melbourne 3001, AUSTRALIA)

V/A - "Back To Punk" EP

Five bands doing seven songs on this slab of vinyl. This is sort of a throwback to the '80s when European hardcore meant NEUROTIC ARSEHOLES, TOXOPLASMA or someone like that. Most of the bands are straight hardcore with lots of melody and energy. No grindcore and no metal and no production value. ABZESS are especially good (despite having the worst recording) reminding me of really early CHAOS UK or something. The whole thing is pretty good... (LH)
(Very Good Records, Middendorfstr 3, D-44137 Dortmund, GERMANY)

V/A - "Circle, Circle, Dot, Dot" CD

This CD presents itself as a "kooties benefit CD", and it defines kooties as "...an illness that effects the brain in such a manner that one becomes vulnerable (to) the temptations that therein lead to the contractions of HIV." Umm, whatever, dumb jokes aside this CD is less than extraordinary at best. Despite some good songs by the likes of NO EMPATHY, BLACKHEAD, and MULLIGAN STU, most of the CD is filled with flat recordings and little or no energy. My roommate, Avel, was excited by the song title "Chili-Cheese Obsession", but even his absolute love for the aforementioned food was not enough to keep me from being disappointed by the typical "monkey punk" drum beat and formula song. Another glimmer of hope arose when I saw a band called RINGWURM listed on track 16. Although better than most of the bands on this recording, this was definitely not the "hard and strong" RINGWURM from San Jose, CA. (HD)
(Flat Broke Productoins, PO Box 1048, Goldenrod, FL 32733)

V/A - "Eighty Four Eleven Crew" CD

This is a compilation of four overseas bands (I am not sure where, maybe Germany?) that are incessant on the "crew" mentality. Bands include JUST-A-FIGHT, LOWLIFE, FATAL JUSTICE, and VICTIMIZED. This is all about the tough guy crew "we need to create unity" mentality. Musically the bands are pretty good, but I just can't openly listen to stuff like this when I look at the insert and the lyrics and there is a centerfold of boys looking all hard. Where is the rest of the unity crew? No girls, or no ethnicity. Unity huh? I am just offended. This never should have been put in for review. I am not down for the boys club thing, so these bands don't get my seal of approval. (LU)
(EEC Records, Aengwirderwei 189A, 8459 BM Luinjeberd, HOLLAND)

V/A - "Everything Goes When You Go Girl Crazy" LP

Seventeen all-girl or girl-vocal bands contribute tunes to this varied, disappointing compilation — though you'll find a few things of interest if you search real hard. BUDGET GIRLS ("Tinklebee") combine a '60s punk riff with a '90s pop-punk sensibility; ME FIRST ("Drunk And Walking Home Alone") shows a talent for buzzy mid-tempo punk with a comic twist; the BEAUTYS come in with a nice surf number; and of the poppier numbers, the HISSYFITS' "Wish" and NINETY-NINE's "Woekenender" have more than their share of decent hooks. (SS)
(Remedial Records, 25701 I-45 N. #2-186, Spring, TX 77380)

MUSIC REVIEWS

V/A - "50 Bands From Each State Performing Their State Song" CD

Well before I even listen to this I'm kinda wondering what's the point? I doubt that this is some sort of exercise in state pride or crap like that, but I'm wondering why so much time, money and effort was put into this double CD of all fifty of the United States' state songs. I'm assured by my roommate Karen that it's funny. Maybe it's good to have around as some sort of reference CD or something. It even goes so far as to play the songs in the order that the states ratified the constitution. Included are the songs "Hail Pennsylvania" by PLOW UNITED, "Hail Vermont" by HUFFY, "Hail Minnesota" by 4TH GRADE NOTHING, "Hail South Dakota" from THE TRANSAMS, and "All Hail to Massachusetts" courtesy of LITTLE A. Karen says it's refreshing and clever to have a theme other than drinking and watching TV for a generic punk album. I say why encourage generic punk? But I have to admit that after listening to this, most of the bands on this are much better than just generic punk bands. Songs differ greatly from band to band. All yer basic underground genres are covered here: emo, hardcore, indie, etc., but the songs are all very anthemic by nature. If it just so happens that you're looking for all the states' songs in one convenient place, then you could do a lot worse than to get this. Still, how often do you think you'll want to listen to "O, Fair New Mexico", even if it is played by UV TRANSMISSION? (HD)
(Coolidge Records, 157 Coolidge Terr, Wyckoff, NJ 07481)

V/A - "I Gave In" CD

This is a CD commemorating Chumpire Records 100th release, and the title refers to putting it out on CD. 31 tracks coming from 24 bands from Pennsylvania, and all are either unreleased or remixed. Too much to list, but there's goodies from OX, BUTTERCUP, NOT YOUR FRIENDS, PRESSGANG, KISSES AND HUGS and DAVENPORT, to just name a few of the samplings here. Many of the bands fall into the punk/hardcore area of sound, but there are samplings of other genres, like the retroish styling of PHOTON BAND. I have listened to this all the way through with nary a complaint, and that's pretty damn good considering the size of this one. Definitely worth having. (CW)
(PO Box 680, Conneaut Lake, PA 16316-0680)

V/A - "Jap" CD

Actually, the title to this CD is all in Japanese characters, so I can't really do it justice. But does it really fucking matter when you've got so many incredible bands on one compilation. SHIKABANE, FOOD, POOR, SLANG, QUILL, DIRTY IS GOD, RAZORS EDGE, CARCASS GRINDER, NO THINK, KNUCKLEHEAD, HARD CORE DUDE, FISHY, MOGA THE ¥5, NICE VIEW, CURTAIN RAIL, and REAL REGGAE all unleash an unrelenting assault of chaotic speed and aggression. Usually with the sheer number of releases that MCR puts out, their comps and splits are hit and miss. But this time around every band is right on the money. I think the real title of this CD should be "Rob's Favorite Release Of The Month". Killer! (RC)
(MCR Company, 157 Kamiagu Maizuru, Kyoto 624, JAPAN)

V/A - "Just Another Punk" LP

A split between two Japanese bands. The ATTACKED sound like a mix of R.O.I.R.-era BAD BRAINS and early ABRASIVE WHEELS. Actually, the more I listen, the more they do sound like ABRASIVE WHEELS. Even the recording sounds like one of their early singles or something. The SPIKY JOYS have much better production. Great punk production that makes them sound like they could have been on "Punk And Disorderly". As much as the ATTACKED sound like ABRASIVE WHEELS, the SPIKEY JOYS sound like The PARTISANS. I mean, if I didn't know better I would have thought they might be doing covers. This is really fantastic and a must for fans of the classic early '80s UK punk sound. (LH)
(Knock Out Records, Postfach 100716, 46527 Dinslaken, GERMANY)

V/A - "Killed By Epitaph" 2xLP

I'm told this is a vinyl 2 record bootleg of a CD-only compilation of Dutch punk rock that Epitaph Europe released. That's too bad 'cause everyone should hear this great release. Luckily, some bootlegger has come to the rescue. There's 25 different bands on here which shows how vital the Dutch was from '77-'82. The bands that stand out are The EX (first single!), HELMETTES, SPEEDTWINS, SHITH, RONDOS ("the Dutch CRASS") and FRITES MODERN. Track it down and buy it today. (MM)
(no address)

V/A - "Music Against The Human Race" EP

This is an all German comp that includes CHAOSFRONT, BASALT, WWK, BLEIBENDE SCHADEN, VORSICHT GLAS and T.H.C. Outside of the thrashing grind of BASALT, this compilation has a great mix of styles that could easily convince you it was from 1988, not 1998. I really liked the WWK song. I could definitely hear a heavy RATTUS influence in their music. (RC)
(Frontcore c/o Thorsten Held, Ilsentr. 19, D-56472 Stockhausen-Illfurth, GERMANY)

V/A - "Network Of Friends Vol 2" 2xLP

Unfortunately this is a limited edition release. Unfortunate because this is a great sampling of European hardcore and punk bands from all points in the '80s and could serve as a great introduction to those unfamiliar with NEGAZIONE, B.G.K., RAW POWER, INDIGESTI, RIPCORD, and HERESY and a host of others. Just about every song on here is played like it's going to be the last time. Gotta get me a copy, but until then this is going to be a great presorted mixed tape. (TH)
(Plastic Bomb, Forststr. 71, 47055 Duisburg, GERMANY)

V/A - "Punkin" CD

This here is a sampler of the fine artists offered by the Munster label outta Spain. Like almost all samplers, it would be impossible to like them all, so here are my personal favorites: LA SECTA, SAFETY PINS, KING TRASH F., and the PUSSYCATS. The other bands could probably go down well with PLEASURE FUCKERS fans, say. Just a little generic for me. (RW)
(Munster Records, Apdo. 18107, 28080 Madrid, SPAIN)

MUSIC REVIEWS

V/A - "Runt Of The Litter" CD

Damn! This 39 band New England compilation of mostly unknowns starts off with a bang courtesy of WHERE'S BEN?, who do a kick ass ANGRY SAMOANS sounding tune. Next up THE DYSLEXICS who churn out a killer '77 style number. THE LURKERS with more cajones! And things just keep rolling right along, song after song. All the bands do it up right regardless of the style they're playing. Eighties hardcore and thrash, snotty three chord punk, pop punk, borderline SLAYER tunes, I liked it all! Yeah, I can't believe it either. Best of the best, aside from the above mentioned bands, The USELESS FUCKS, the INJECTIONS, the SQWAGS, the PIPSQUEEKS, 25 LIARS and ALLEY SWAY. Very D.I.Y. Very punk. Very worthy of your money. (RM)
($10 ppd: Ronald Lacer, PO Box 391494, Cambridge, MA 02139-0015)

V/A - "Standing With His Back To The Door" EP

7" comp of five Portland bands, all operating in underproduced lo-fi weirdo punk rock thing and bringing to mind all sorts of things in my mind from The LEWD (WATCHERS), the ELECTRIC EELS (The REUTERS) stuff, even the EELS's "Bunnies" 7" (the STEPFORD WIVES). Obviously done by record geek/art types here,(a band called SPIN AGE BLASTERS how much more Clevo can one get) right down to the hand drawn b/w cover. Smacks heavily of insular aesthetic inbreeding, very cool. (JY)
(Fringe-Weird, 6107 SE 93rd Ave. Portland, OR 97266-5239)

V/A - "The Great Age Of Enlightenment?" EP

A benefit comp for the Lubicon Nation's boycott against Daishowa paper company. Its got REVERSAL OF MAN, NOISOME FAUGH (best tracks on the comp), PRESIDENTS CHOICE, PASSAFIST, SYNGUYA, and the two most hated bands in the US, RACE TRAITOR and DROP DEAD (seems that the hatred for DROP DEAD is felt in Japan now too after their tour). With the exception of the last two crappy bands, the comp's on the right track, so get it. (MW)
(A-Team Records, PO Box 1745, Greensboro, NC 27402)

V/A - "This Town Ain't Big Enough" EP

This EP is a split featuring two bands, one - SPLITCOX - from South Dakota (Watertown) and the other - VIDEO NASTY - from Minnesota (Minneapolis). It is another one of those battle of the bands splits, an example being LINK 80 v.s. SUBINCISION. In this battle, I'd have to say that SPLITCOX come out on top. SPLITCOX are straight ahead street punk, with one of their influences being, and possible namesake(?), the DISCOCKS. VIDEO NASTY has an interesting sound that grew better with every play, to me it's a GERMS meets BLASTERS but played on the level of punk rock (i.e. more GERMS-y). In fact both these bands might inspire others to start a band because there is none of that, "I'm actually more talented than this", attitude going on here. (JV)
($4 ppd: Hipa Krit Records, 420 2nd St. NW, Watertown, SD 57201)

V/A - "U.K.H.C. A Compilation" CD

Here you have it, a full blown sampling of what the modern UK hardcore scene has to offer. This comp includes FREEBASE, UP AGAINST IT, AREA EFFECT, KNUCKLEDUST, CONSUME, SELF INFLICTED, SET AGAINST, F.L.S., NINE BAR, LOCKDOWN, PUBLIC DISTURBANCE, ASSERT, IMBALANCE, MEDULLA NOCTE, and probably the most popular hardcore band from this area, STAMPIN' GROUND. This is a pretty good collection that covers a variety of styles but centers mostly around the slower, thick necked metalcore that has been so popular on the East Coast of the good ol' USA. There really isn't a bad song on here, so check it out. (RC)
($13 ppd: Household Name, PO Box 12286, London SW9 6FE, UK)

V/A - "Valgalian's Legacy" EP

The Japanese interest in grind, speed, or death styled hardcore is a cultural phenomenon in itself. For some reason, the kids over there love playing it. This record features four bands that fall into the death/speedcore category: GRUDGE, D.I.E., CASKET K, and MAD BUTCHER. GRUDGE seem to almost parody the genre, as listening to the "singer's" growling lyrics one can't help but laugh at the extreme levels he has gone to sound like an animal. CASKET K kick major ass, their tracks guitar progressions heavily reminiscent of, dare I say it, SLAYER. OK release. (CW)
(Bloodbath Records, 28-9-402, Tanakasekidencho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606, JAPAN)

V/A - "We Are Bacteria" EP

An "interesting" compilation with some of the worst recordings I've heard. I can't believe some of these songs were actually pressed onto a seven inch. I've heard better recordings of a live show off a single mic. I mean come on, I'm all for low-fi, but why press something that sounds like it was recorded through a tin can? The best thing I can say about this record is that there is only 100 copies of it. But if you do like super low-fi, barely understandable indie pop, check this out with J CHURCH, PHANTOM PREGNANCIES, and MR. HANSEN, or better yet, go see them live. This sucks, but maybe they don't. (HD)
(Honey Bear)

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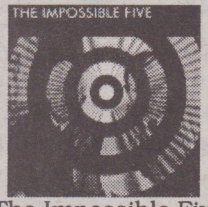

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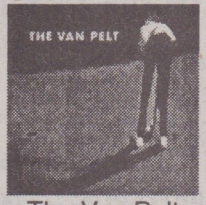

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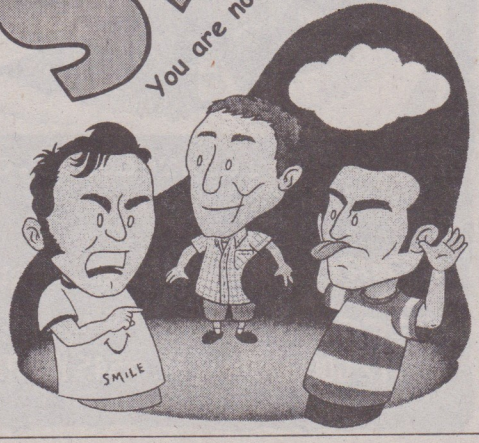

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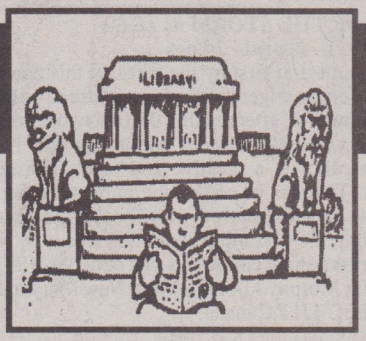


BETWEEN THE LIONS

Reviews by: (JA) Jen Angel, (LB) Lily Boe, (BC) Brianna Chesser, (JC) Jeremy Cool, (MD) Mikel Delgado, (RD) Raphael DiDonato, (TD) Timothy Doran, (GF) Gardner Fusuhara, (JF) Jodi Feldman, (HH) Harald Hartmann, (JH) Jeff Heermann, (MJ) Mary Jane, (AM) Allan McNaughton, (JM) Jeff Mason, (RM) Raimundo Murguia, (AR) Aragorn, (SS) Sean Sullivan, (TT) Travis T, (LU) Leah Urbano, (CW) Charles Wolski, (JW) Joe Whiting, (KW) Kelli Williams, (JX) Jux, (TX) Trixie. *Specific criticisms aside, it should be understood that any independent release deserves credit for all the work and money going into it.*

Just a quick reminder, when you send in your zine for review please include the following information: number of pages, method of printing, and the price. This will help us and you. We will not review mainstream rock magazines, even in the guise of 'zines (like a few majors are attempting to pull off), poetry, swim suit magazines, hippie new age politics, etc. The scope of coverage isn't as narrow as it sounds, but you have to draw the line somewhere. Believe it or not, this isn't an easy job deciding what gets reviewed or listed and altogether rejected. Consistency is impossible in a situation like this. Thanks a lot, Mikel and Jen.

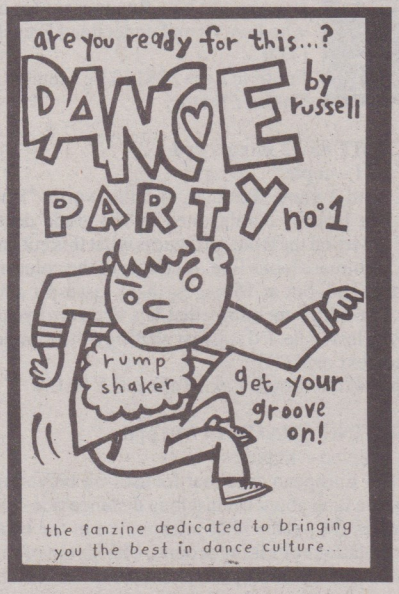
A SLIGHT DIVERGENCE OF PHILOSOPHY #1 / $1 ppd or trade
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 28 pgs
Lots of right on politics; a mere sampling of the many lies and omissions in American history as it is taught, a lengthy piece about the War on Drugs, and a thing about America Online from an ex-employee. Also an interview with Avail. Well done. (GF)
PO Box 1235 / Greenwood, MS 38935-1235

ATROPHY #? / stamps
8 1/2 x 5 1/2 - copied - 18 pgs
I love this zine and the guy who does it (Colin). My heart was won by the stud of the month centerfold of Joey Lawrence and Colin's addiction to Garliphants (garlic flavored elephant shaped vitamins). This zine is wacky, wild, kool-aid style and comes highly recommended. (LB)
PO Box C-11 / New Rochelle, NY 10804

BAZOOKA! #3 / $3.00 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 38 pgs
Belgian, which means that their command of the English language is greater than your average sophomore at San Francisco State or wherever. Includes the (under-interviewed) Royal Pendletons, Mick Collins of the Gories and Blacktop, some esoteric band/project called Fife and Drum (the name put me so far off I couldn't delve any deeper than the title) and critical analysis of new releases (they're much longer than reviews!). Musically it falls into the nouveau garage/blues punk realm, with the occasional nod toward Plastic Bertrand. (JH)
Patrijzenlaan 20 / 8900 Ieper / Belgium

BETWEEN TODAY AND TOMORROW #1 / $?
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 44 pgs
For some reason, the editor sent in his first issue of this zine, written in '96. Maybe I read it unfairly but it just seemed...dated. Reprints from an African People's Socialist party handout, lots of lukewarm musings and ramblings with some emo band live photos. Dirk also sent *Between Today and Tomorrow Summer of Ninety Seven* which was a big improvement. A love for skating, an explanation of a flyer written to out the misogyny in his community, and more of those photos. Better than a lot of the stuff that's out there, but that's not saying much. (KW)
Dirk / 957 Chelsea Ct. / Holland, MI 49423

BRAIN TUMOR FOR BREAKFAST #1 / $1 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 28 pgs
Self-conscious "high school sucks and everybody is lame" zine. Tales of living and being bored in Long Island, seeing somebody beat up at GWAR, poetry, centerfold of Chrisser (Peechees, Lookout), takin' Ritalin. Also musings about going to college and a story about getting threatened at school. (MJ)
PO Box 365 / Roslyn Heights, NY 11577



CANDLES FOR GIRLS #4 / $1 & 2 stamps
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 36 pgs
Yet another deep thinking and engaging writer opens up her diary for all you print-voyeurs to read. Lots about love, sex, and relationships. Vulnerable letters, some dream summaries, an insightful interview with Skuld who does *Rag Hag* and a fascinating look at the editor's own proclaimed masochism and how she views her sexual yearnings as a woman and also as a survivor of abuse. This is why personal zines kick ass. You feel guilty, as though you're eavesdropping on someone's most private thoughts, but you keep turning the page. (KW)
Jennifer / PO Box 2695 / Madison, WI 53701-2695

CHANGE ZINE #10 / $2 ppd
81 /2 x 11 - newsprint - 128 pgs
This is one of the bigger New York hardcore zines and is obviously well produced.Personally, I'm not into the whole jock/hardcore thing and cannot appreciate in any way the numerous articles on basketball. It does contain interviews with Spazz, Ensign and Converge. There are also the usual reviews and columns, and a wonderfully ironic editorial on slapdancing which says basically "stop kicking the shit out of me when you dance or I will kick the shit out of you". Gotta love New York. (SS)
PO Box 1010 / Village Station / New York, NY 10014

CHUMPIRE #93 / SASE
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 1 pg
One page of concise observations, some more personal than others, on coming home for Christmas, visiting Florida, and DJ-ing a high school dance. Well thought reviews and reccomendations of records and movies are interspersed between stories. Worth the stamp.(BC)
PO Box 680 / Connecticut Lake, PA 16316-0680

COLLECTED LETTERS #4 / $3.00
8 1/2 x 5 1/2 - copied - 40 pgs
If you've ever enjoyed the secret thrill of reading over someone's shoulder as they opened their mail, then this is the zine for you. Letters and the occasional essay offering glimpses, sometimes humorous, sometimes heart wrenching, into the lives of people you've never met, and yet strangely enough they appear to be exactly like you and your friends. (JW)
PO Box 15016 / Boston, MA 02215

CONCRETE CHAOS #3 / free
8 1/2 x 5 1/2 - copied - 28 pgs
Concrete Chaos is a local San Jose zine put together by a couple of friends. It's got way too much poetry in it for my taste. It is also includes art work by Richard Besetment, an interview with the band Cathy Ames and a well written, if not terribly original, piece on the Leonard Peltier case. (SS)
Angel Orates / 4632 Mix Cr. / San Jose, CA 95136

CONSPIRACY COMIX #15 / $2
8 1/2 x 5 1/2 - copied - 40 pgs
Ha, ha, ha, this zine fuckin' rocks! I declare this issue "Zine of the Year". It certainly isn't political, and it isn't really "punk", as in, "let's go burn some cop cars", but it's more punk in a humorous, ridiculous way. For instance, there is a fake article all about "Gothic Gangs", a bunch of silly poetry, a short story about smelling like ham,

coupons for crystal meth and crack bags, a list of stupid web pages (The Therapeutic Botulism Homepage) and a cool mini zine stapled in the middle dedicated to Japanese culture. No shit, this zine is a lot of fun, and highly recommended. (TT)
Miss Bianca / 1015 Addison St. / Berkeley, CA 94710

DANCE PARTY #1 / $?
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied -36 pgs
It's all about dancing. Various people tell dance stories, talk about their favorite things to dance to, a couple of "my life" stories, some comics, and "good shows to dance at" show reviews. I must say I liked the idea of this zine more than the zine itself. But I have high hopes, and I know it's hard to break from the mold and try new ideas. (GF)
1415 Beachcomber Ln. / Houston, TX 77062

DEAFDATE #1 / $1.50 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 12 pgs
This is a really cool DIY comic book. Episodes that range in length from three panels to a couple pages in length. His story line goes from surreal silliness found in funnies, to the personal real stuff you would see in Hate. His drawing from strip to strip varies, from a loose, fast, energetic scribble, to a very precise and stylized rendering. This is something worth buying if you're into comics, and I would look forward to future issues. (CW)
PO Box 1584 / Corona, CA 91718-1584

DESTINATION VENUS #5 / $2
11 x 8 1/2 - copied - 18 pgs - Italian
In this issue there is a column about the Internet from a trash culture point of view. There is a brief history of early Italian punk, an interview with Max of SCSS records and reviews of strange horror movies. (HH)
Ale Pozzi / Corso XXV Aprile 26/A / 22036 Erba (CO) / Italy

DISTURBING THE PEACE #5 / $1 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - offset - 40 pgs
Another issue of this cool East coast zine, featuring a mix of old and new punk. This time we've got Amebix (reprinted from MRR), the Newtown Neurotics, and Charles Bronson, as well as a fair chunk of reviews, an interesting letters section, some good columns, and a gossip column that's funnier than ours. Pretty good .(AM)
9 Fenwick Rd. / Whippany, NJ 07981

DRINKING GASOLINE #1 / $1 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 24 pgs
A short little number, but has some really great bands in here. Interviews with Asshole Parade, Charles Bronson, The Locust, and Burned Up Bled Dry. Nice first issue, but I would like to see it a little more in depth in the writing/opinion department. (LU)
Lonnie / 1806 Sanders / Poplar Bluff, MO. 63901

DROP OUT #5 / $1
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - newsprint - 16 pgs
This is a cool resource for non-traditional education that folds out to newspaper size. Although only for California, there is information about and contacts for high school equivalency, home-based education, charter schools, private schools, college and universities. True to the name, there's also info on work permits for school aged people, apprenticeships and vocational training. The articles speak of the need for alternatives and the letters section from current and former students is heart wrenching and stirs up some horrible school memories of my own. Too bad this didn't arrive in time for review in MRR's education issue (which Pam did contribute to). Recommended to those who just can't take high school another day. (TX)
Pam / 1114 21st St / Sacramento, CA 95814

EARQUAKE # 56 / $2 ppd
8 1/4 x 6 - copied - 32 pgs - French
Another good issue from this solid, consistently well-done little zine. Intelligent interviews, nicely presented, penetrating questions, good layout, and generally well-thought out and tasteful. A fine interview with American Oi band Patriot in which one of its members discusses Being a Skinhead in tones that both avoid seeming banal and warm the cockles of my heart. Reviews of more French zines than you ever thought existed; an amusing review of an Esperanto language primer (it's these little details that make *Earquake* better than "good"), interviews with this Side Up and Guttersnipe, CD reviews, more fun. This very Oi-heavy issue would be a fine present for all who love Oi and understand French. (TD)
Frederic Leca / 88160 Le Menil / Le Thillot / France

EAT SHIT #5 / 2 stamps ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 16 pgs
Well, with a name like that, and the words "Live Fast, Die Drunk" emblazoned in 7th grade death metal letters on the front, just guess what this cut and paste nightmare looks like. A couple of the columns aren't so bad, but at 16 pages, there just isn't a lot here. The editor mentions that it's been two years since the last issue. I'd suggest waiting a little longer for the next one. (JC)
PO Box 4766 / South Lake Tahoe, CA 96157

ENNOYING CRACK #4 / $2 ppd
5 x 5 - copied - 48 pages
This is a European zine that focuses on bicycling. This issue is all about his last long distance ride. The reading is OK, somewhat informative in the trials and tribulations of biking around. The layout of this zine was good, probably done on a computer, but the print at times was too small, and I often found myself taking breaks to ease my eyes. But overall it had content and was well written, so if you're into biking you might want to check it out. (CW)
Tom Sap / Kranebroeklaan 19 / 8930 Lauwe / Belgium

EUGENE #8 / $2
11 x 17 - copied - 36 pgs
I was impressed by how clean-looking this zine put out by kids into skating, ska, and hardcore was. It had some random rants and stupid stories which for some reason kept my attention. Interviews with the Aquabats, Save Ferris, and Mockinwocky (a local band) that weren't full of someone else's inside jokes. Reviews of common records, and a lot of eighties tributes throughout. I can imagine reading this while sitting bored in high school, but I wouldn't go out of my way. (BC)
Mark Borders / 229 Apache Dr / Paint Lick KY 40461-9750

EYE OF THE STORM #1 / $.50
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 24 pgs
I was put off at first by the fact that this zine is stapled on the edge full sized paper (usually a bad sign) however, after reading the first two or three pages I was really starting to enjoy myself. This zine's editor is a creative and often hilarious writer. There is of course the obligatory show reviews and an interview with The Dayglo Abortions but, the best thing about this zine is by far the writers snide comments and cartoons. (SS)
Jennifer Murphy / 144 Shaw Ln, New Maryland, NB / E3C 1J1 / Canada

FAR FROM HOME #7 / $?
8 1/2 x 11 - printed - 48 pgs
Standard zine format featuring interviews with AFI, Pinhead Circus & Final Conflict, plus columns, fiction, random facts, Klanwatch info, reviews (show, record and date), and animal rights stuff. The five pages of random band photos seems a bit pointless, and some of the illustrations are pretty hokey, but it's decent. (JC)
Nick Mendoza / 7512 Amigo Ave / Reseda, CA 91335

FIST CITY #7 / $2.00 ppd
8 1/2 x 5 1/2 - copied - 68 pgs
Stories about shit, the kind that happens to you and the kind that your food turns into, and how both kinds relate to work, life, and revenge. The high points were the interviews, one with Bill Stevenson of the descendents and the other with film director Richard Stanley. Other than that this was so-so at best. I've seen a couple of other issues if this zine that were better than this one, hopefully the next will be back up to part. (JW)
L. Daigle / 2255 St. Mathieu #1206 / Montreal, PQ / Canada

FLIPSIDE #110 / $3.00 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - printed - 164 pgs
Awwww, I've gotta review *Flipside,* Fine. Articles on racist cartoons and punk's relation to porn, a bunch of interviews with bands I don't really care about, an interview with Jen & Tim from MRR, a talk with filmmaker Oliver Stone, some columns with pictures of naked people in them, tons of reviews; you know the drill. As usual, *Flipside* seems to be about a year behind the current scene. (JC)
PO Box 60790 / Pasadena, CA 91116

FUCK YOU ALL #2 / $2 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 32 pgs
Cut and paste styled punk zine from Britain. This issue has mostly interviews: Savage Malignant, Marshal Peanut, and Mr. Zippy to name just a few. There are some short record and demo reviews, and a rambling piece on on psychological evaluations of personality types. This zine was an OK read, but I'm sure I would enjoy it more if I was from the UK, as the focus is primarily on the scene over there. (CW)
Pigman Records / 35 The Leys / Clevedon / North Somerset / BS21 7YQ / UK

GEEK AMERICA #5 / ?
8 1/2 x 5 – copied – 36 pgs
While this has been snubbed in past issues, I really have to say it's a massive improvement. It's got work stories (which, as you can guess, are more than abundant), a blurb about breakdancing in the pit, and other stuff, like a customer of his, nicknamed Metal, who gives him tips on bestiality that had me squirming! This is too great. The helter skelter layout actually adds to the whole picture. All Lookout reviews and bad stapling jobs aside, this is a nice, light laugh. (RD)
22682 Napoli / Laguna Hills, CA 92653

GIRL JOCK #16 / $3.95 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - printed - 32 pgs
If you are a girl and a jock, this is your perfect match (probably pretty obvious). Kickboxers, skaters, softball players and more share the tricks of the trade in this issue. *Girl Jock* tells you what to eat, what shoes you should wear and other useful sporty things. (LB)
PO Box 882723 / San Francisco, CA 94188-2723

GREEDY PIGS #5 / $2 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - offset - 36 pgs
This zine takes me back to the olden days of cut and paste style zines, when everyone circled their 'A's and 'E's and made their 'O's into peace signs. Committed to DIY punk and hardcore, this features interviews with UK underground bands Assert, Intention and Freebase, and one with the creators of Irish zine *Loserdom*, as well as zine, record, demo and comp tape reviews, and a few good columns. There's a good attitude behind this, not a bad read at all. (AM)
PO Box 172 / Rugby / CV21 4ZU / UK

GRUNDIG #3 / $2 ppd
5 1/2 x 7 1/2 - copied - 52 pgs
This is one of the best reads I've had in months. The first part of *Grundig* was devoted to history, significance, and photos of hobo and rail worker graffiti, something I knew nothing about. The last portion was about a train ride through Mexico, as if Holden Caulfield was inspired by *On the Road*. Props to kids seeing the world and sharing it with others. This is worth it for the hand-drawn borders alone, and the stories are a welcome break from angst-ridden scenester bullshit. Buy this, unless you're a prisoner, because then it's free. (BC)
2510 SE Clinton St / Portland, OR 97202

HAGIA LA INSURECCION #1 / $?
6 x 8 1/2 - copied - 42 pgs - Spanish
This zine out of Bolivia treads somewhere between *Heart Attack* and *Profane Existence*. Really well put together, lots of politics, interviews with bands of the Hardcore and Crust extractions and tons of zine, record and demo reviews. It's all in Spanish but if this stuff interests you and you don't speak the language I'd say it's still worth searching out.(RM)
Mario Copana / Casilla Postal 361 / Cercado, Cochabamba / Bolivia

HODGEPODGE #3 / $2 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - newsprint - 66 pgs
Well, seeing this is my last month as a volunteer here (I'm moving), I want to mention that this is the last zine I am reviewing for my MRR career. This is the last one, and boy is it a good one. I watched this go from embryo into full grown baby, and I am pretty impressed. This issue has a lot of writing and insight. In depth articles on minorities and education, and the effects of Rohypnol (Roofies) and Alcohol. Interviews with Delta 72, Indecision, Sons of Abraham, Sleepytime Trio, and Jason Farrell from Bluetip. Altogether, this has come from the bottom to the top in a very short amount of time. This is a zine to watch! (LU)
432 Red Jacket Quad / SUNY Buffalo / Buffalo, NY 14261

THE HOLY BILE #9 / $2 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 16 pgs
This is a great issue. Well thought out and well written political articles on topics such as welfare, homosexuality and deforestation. Refreshingly, the writing is far beyond what you usually find in a punk - political zine. I was a bit disappointed by the size, two dollars seems a bit steep for sixteen pages, but it is still a good example of a well written political zine. (SS)
515 - 916 W. Broadway / Vancouver, B.C. / V5Z - 0R5 / Canada

HOOFSIP #39 / $2 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 26 pgs
This has many odd and wonderful features: a cartoon table-of-contents page, an interview with the Bosstones, transcriptions of the Dumbest Prank Calls Ever Made (and they're really, really dumb), an article about an independent film outfit called Anhedenia, a pictorial lament to the disappearance of glass bottle sodas, a Who trivia quiz, and an extremely funny Baboon Dooley take on MRR "office politics." Enjoyable in the extreme. Includes *Pshaw*, a tiny 1-pager zine with a most amusing summer camp scatology tale. (TD)
POB 7636 / Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-7636

I DON'T CARE #19 / $3 ppd
8 1/4 x 5 3/4 - copied - 20 pgs - Italian
Interview with George Tabb, thoughtfully translated into English; also an Italian translation of one of Tabb's columns. Concert reviews, a short article on 2 Tone, record reviews. Nicely laid out, decent graphics, otherwise unremarkable. (TD)
Stefano Calori / Corso Sempione 100 / 20154 Milano / Italy

JADE'S RED ROOM #6 / $3
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 32 pgs
This is the "artsy-fartsy" issue cuz the editor used the computer generated layouts for a school project, but it still oozes punkdom. There's zine, book, and show reviews, a rallying call for punk bicyclists and a lengthy trip diary to Europe detailing encounters with international punks and explorations of European squats and tourist traps. I would have liked more information on the people featured in "Breakdancing: a Photo documentary" but other than that, this was a pretty solid read and not hard on the eyes at all. (KW)
Jade / 127 W. 15th St. #4F / New York, NY 10011

KICKS MAGAZINE ROCKNROLL PHOTO ALBUM #1 / $19.95
8 1/2 x 11 - printed (square bound) - 96 pgs
This is a photobook, not a zine. It had pictures of black r&b/rocknroll bands from the 50s playing live, mostly in LA and Miami. A few folks are going off, like Bea Booker, Dinah Washington, and the Treniers, but the others are just standing there and I think would only be of interest to you if you knew the bands. There are also posed (not live) pictures of white guys from the 60s, including the Yardbirds and Bob Dylan. (JM)
Kicks Books / PO Box 646 / Cooper Sta / New York, NY 10276-0646

KILLING TIME #1 / $?
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 32 pages
Yet another half size copied zine with poor grammar, awful spelling and ridiculous drawings. Will the onslaught never end? This one has an interview with Gob (the Canadian pop punk band), a few zine and record reviews, a couple editorials and some reprinted song lyrics. I don't really have a lot to say about this kind of thing. (JC)
8825 160th St. / Surrey, BC / V4N 2X8 / Canada

KILL THE PRESIDENT #1 / $1 + 2 stamps
7 x 8 1/2 - copied - 36 pgs
I must confess to an immediate negative reaction to titles like this, but I'll try to be objective here. Fair graphics; a dramatic story about a Yugoslavian Jew in 1941; anti-Disney, anti-Olympics, anti-McDonalds stuff; an article, complete with blurry photographs, attempting to disprove, "Capricorn 3"-style, the 1969 American moon landing. In a statement of intent at the end, the creative board behind this effort states a desire for a society without laws, and a belief that truth is subjective - possibly, in my opinion, the most dangerous and foolish belief in our century, as well as merely extremely annoying coming from the mouths of people who believe it because it's now cool and liberal to. (TD)
5168 Beeler Street #2 / Pittsburgh, PA 15217

KOEKRAND #90 / $2
8 x 6 - printed - 24 pgs - Dutch
This zine is old school punk that has that cool Dutch look of sharp contrasts. There are articles on the bands Ivy Green and Jack Nicholsons Toilet Seeds. There is also record and zine reviews. But the outstanding point of this zine is not quantity, but quality. Worth checking out! (HH)
Johan van Leeuwen / Lange Moor 6 / 2151 VE Nieuw Vennep / Netherlands

LAST CHANCE #1 / $1 + one stamp
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 60 pgs
Another zine that's full of put downs. "My writing sucks." "I have nothing to write about." Complaining doesn't score any points! This zine is pretty packed with stuff, lots of columns and interviews, but they could have used their space a lot better and ended up with a lot less white space (always a turn off). The interviews (Falling Sickness, Avail, AFI, Heckle, Link 80, MxPx) are pretty good and there's a bunch of record reviews, too. Overall, a good start. (JA)
623 Beverley Dr / Alexandria, VA 22305

LIMOUSINE #5/ **THAT GIRL** #9 / $2 ppd
7 x 8 1/2 - copied - 60 pgs
A split issue, the *Limo* side was my favorite. Girl stuff on depression, fat issues, personal stuff. Interview with Exene, which makes any zine a winner for me. Job search chronicles. *That Girl* is pretty wacky, and a little more lighthearted. She combines personal stories of bad haircuts, a trip home for her sister's attempt at becoming homecoming queen and her band's tour diary (the Piltdowns). (MJ)
Kelli Williams / PO Box 170612 / San Francisco, CA 94117

MACHORKA / $1.50
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 22 pgs
An Italian radical-anarchist-vegetarian-prisoner

rights zine, filled to the brim with leftist political writings. All the usual articles are in here, class war, Mumia Abu-Jamal, Mcdonalds, Animal liberation, and earth first. While I do tend to agree with quite a bit of what's written here, I have to admit to having a few problems with the way that it is presented. Too many of these articles have been over-simplified to the point where they practically lose all meaning, a somewhat predictable outcome from trying to cram so much information about so many different issues into one short edition of a zine. When I see this kind of zine, it always comes off as preaching to the already converted, you write down a few catch phrases and some code words and since everybody already knows all about the issue you are writing about, they can fill in the blanks. To me this is just a waste of time for everyone involved. If you are trying to reach and influence new readers, then give them something with a little more substance. (JW)
Battaglia Gianni / Piazza Assiettang / 10050 Sauze D'oulx / Torino / Italy

MAD MONKS #12 / $3 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - offset - 74 pgs
This zine is hot stuff! I haven't read anything I liked this much in ages. Columns, tons of interesting interviews - unbelievable as that might sound - with Swinging Utters, Girls Against Boys, Icki from *Sty Zine*, No Use For A Name, and many more. Also, UFO sighting reports, reviews. You must get it! And not a single mention of Tom Jones, leeks or sheep. They do mention Beddis and TJ's, though, so they are truly Welsh. (MJ)
40 Partridge Road, Roath / Cardiff, Wales / CF2 3QX / UK

MALCONTENT'S HOME JOURNAL #3 / $2 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 20 pgs
This is a news and history oriented zine in the vein of *Dwgsht*. Lots of information and commentary, the three big articles being on cloning, the UPS Strike, the conflict with Iraq, and their ramifications. There's also a personal story about having a vasectomy, record reviews, an article about the War on Poverty, and more. It's great to see someone putting a lot of effort and writing into their zine. (JA)
PO Box 50144 / Knoxville, TN 37950

MANUAL RESISTANCE #9 / $1 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 24 pgs
This is an example of how the nineties have shaped the Midwest punk experience. Sensitive man tells all, in a very vague way. Kissing, personal revolution, and aphorisms written from a cafe are indicative. The subtitle is "the many faces of me" but they are hard to discern from the haze. (AR)
PO Box 45622 / Kansas City, MO 64171

MOTORCYCHO #10 / $1 + 2 stamps
4 1/4 x 5 1/2 - copied - 20 pgs
I ride a motorcycle, therefore this is a little interesting to me. I am not enthralled with motorcycle "community" but I love to ride and it is super utilitarian. Herein are gear-heads and future gear-heads telling their side of the story. It is convincing. (AR)
PO Box 1564 / Point Roberts, WA 98281-1564

MULTIBALL #3 / $2.50
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - printed - 56 pgs
Due to it being number thirteen, this issue is all about luck - Lucky Lager, Lucky Strikes, getting lucky, you get the idea. There's a lot of writing, some about pinball, mostly not. Apparently the editors have been receiving some flak about expanding out of the genre but how much do you really want to read about pinball especially after thirteen issues?? The other topics are somewhat related (alcohol, smoking, sex) but the best writing here is still the articles about pinball. Call me a purist. (TX)
PO Box 40005 / Portland, OR 97240

NINE #22 / $?
8 1/2 x 7 - copied - 20 pgs
It's the same old story... again. How can a zine make it to issue #22 with so little substance? The kind of zine which holds your attention for about five minutes. Quick interviews with Think Again and Janitors Of Anarchy, loads of reviews, and one column about working in a supermarket photolab. (JA)
762 Upper James St #136 / Hamilton, ON / L9C 3A2 / Canada

NO FUN #1/ $1.50 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 36 pgs
Strange and quirky zine with lots of personal writing. There was a piece on sex ed in high school, a rant I agreed with about computer/internet addicted individuals, "poetry rape" (hilarious), and a lot of writing about conspiracy theories. One of the editors is kind of obsessed with neo-nazi novels and race as a social construct and on the fact that white slaves were treated as badly if not worse than black slaves (I feel like the article ignored some pretty major issues...). Hmmm. So take that as you will. There were some stories about cats and sex that I found amusing. (MD)
410-545 Manchester Rd./ Victoria, BC / V8T 5H6 / Canada

NO REASON #3 / $2 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 68 pgs
Cut and paste zine that is chock full of stuff. These guys like to drink (duh, they're from England), and they have a pretty low-brow sense of humor. Interviews with Outbreak and Fat Day, columns, reviews, bad comics, the works. As often the case, a little too much obsession with Pennywise type stuff, but I still found this enjoyable. (GF)
64 Leighcliff Rd. / Leigh-on-Sea / Essex SS9 1DN / England

NOT A SIGNIFICANT SOURCE #2 / $2 or 5 stamps
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 44 pgs
This is how every zine should be. It's big and thick, and takes waaay longer than fifteen minutes to read. It has a wide array of topics, a great sense of humor and a healthy dosage of fuck shit up. A story about working at Taco Bell, an interview with Espo of *On The Go Magazine*, a story about stealing wood to build a halfpipe, a piece on Leonard Peltier, white dreadlocks, buying ducks, and doing graffiti. There's something here of interest to everybody, and I really enjoyed the layout because it was interspersed with pictures, drawings, and complaint letters relating to each story. Awesome. This will be in my bathroom reading stack for a long ass time, get one for yours. (TT)
147 S. Oxford St. #4B / Brooklyn, NY 11217

ONE WAY STRAIGHT EDGE #? / $1 ppd
5 1/2 X 8 1/2 - copied - 28 pgs
Not too much about SxE in here, but there are a few really short interviews, and an almost really funny commentary. The interviewees include Ink and Dagger, Henry Rollins and Silent Majority. Seems like the authors are really trying to be comical, but I think they could go a little farther and I would actually laugh. I mean, if you are going to be a smart ass, then take it to the limit! Some reviews and a bunch of ads is what makes up the rest. (LU)
222-09 Edmore Ave. / Queens Village, NY 11428

PELIGRO NEUTRAL #2 / ?
6 x 8 - copied - 16 pgs
Uh well this I'm sure this is way D.I.Y. and well intentioned but... it sucks. A couple of boring interviews, some letters a bad comic strip and that's about it. I'd kick down a nickel for this on a good day. I suppose if you're really obsessing over all things Argentinean. (RM)
Psaje J. Ingenieros 2654 / (1416) Capital Federal / Argentina.

PSYCHO-MOTO #10 / $1. ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 26 pgs
Twisted sexual and scatological anecdotes, off-color jokes, and the obligatory listings. Some funny, some embarrassing, some that should probably be disbelieved (such as ornery kids feeding their babysitter human sewage in an ice cream dish) - that doesn't mean they don't get points for invention. At least someone is recording all of these for the sake of posterity. Contains only one diss of MRR, if you're keeping track. (JH)
PO Box 20223 / New York, NY 10009-7450

PXOX #8 / $1+ stamp or trade
8 1/2 x 5 1/2 - copied - 32 pgs
This zine goes on and on in the, "I was thinking about this and I realized that society sucks because..." type of vein. Hey, I'm not saying that this is bad, most of Greg's observations are right on the fucking mark. I just find it interesting that somebody who praises humor so often in their own zine review section, can write such dry first person critical theory. I don't know, I guess he's going through some kind of existential soul searching thing right now, which is great, and may be new and interesting to some people. Unfortunately, a lot of us have read these same "revelations" like ten years ago and get kinda bored. (TT)
Greg / PO Box 36 / Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

RAZE THE WALLS QUARTERLY #1 / $3 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - printed - 36 pgs
My friends do this... The overall focus is prisoner's rights and "social revolution," and the format is prisoner appeals and articles from various sources. It looks like a first issue in that it lacks continuity, since almost every page is by a different author, and some of the terms thrown around (political prisoner/prisoner of war) aren't defined at all. The highlights are the article on the hows + whys of prisoner support, and the in depth look at one guy's case (framing). Also some good writing from Greg Jackson (*Black Autonomy*) and old school anarchist Peter Kropotkin. No ads, a dollar in stamps for prison-

ers. If this is your thing then lend support, but if you're new to this then *Love & Rage* or *Slingshot* are probably a better value for the money. (JM)
2351 College Stn Rd / Box 523 / Athens, GA 30605

REASONABLY MARTIAN'S [sic] #9.5 / $?
4 1/4 x 5 1/2 - copied - 48 pgs
Compiled by two zany sisters, this zine details their ordinary lives including an o.d. on Robotussin, working at Wendy's, a car crash, road tripping, etc. Best parts were the lists of idiotic laws about sex and comics about their childhood where one sister is always messin' with the other, and they're both butt nekkid like those *Happiness Is...* cartoons. It's not quite as amusing as they probably think it all is, but it's still kinda cute in that "let's put in lots of photos of ourselves!" kinda way. (KW)
Becca & Emily / 206 N. Hampton Rd. / Wilmington, NC 28409

RESISTENCIA #? / ?
9 x 13 - copied - 18 pgs
Well this fanzine couldn't be much more of a mystery.
I was barely able to glean an address off of the back page. I don't know, if you're going to sell your zine an easy to find address, price and issue number may be helpful.
Anyway, this is a pretty cool Argentinean zine that hearkens back to early issues of *Search and Destroy* or *Sniffin' Glue*, if you've ever seen copies of those, in both style and content. Really chaotic layout, interviews with Jayne County and an interview/documentary piece of the early New York scene are the two big highlights. The interview with slasher film director Darrio Argento was interesting as well. There's also lots of other interviews, reviews and columns. Not bad if you can find it. (RM)
CC 16 CP 1427 / Suc. 27 "B" / Buenos Aires / Argentina

RETROGRESSION #13 / $4 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - offset - 128 pgs
Wow!! This is really impressive. After calling it quits with the last issue, the editor changed his mind, and it's a good thing. It's nice to see the emphasis on politics and activism, with a little punk/hardcore thrown in, instead of the other way around. I liked the way even the scene reports were made personal, because they actually described the experience of going to the show, instead of just a list of who's playing in what band. There are lots of really long letters to the editor, most with equally long responses, plus intelligent articles on class, sexuality, police brutality, the Klan, the role of bands in the scene, straight edge, as well as long, thought out reviews of books, zines and records. The article on same sex rape was intense, and I think it's an issue that gets swept under the rug a lot. I don't want to belittle the seriousness of what he experienced, but I did, however, feel like in this article (and a few others) that the writer was a bit overly antagonistic toward the women's and rape survivor movement. *Women* have worked hard to develop those programs for other *women* - so maybe men need to do the same thing for themselves... Anyway, this zine really made me think, which is more than most zines do, and I know this is a really long review, but I think this zine deserves it. I didn't even mention the interviews with Sabrina/Bamboo Girl (well done) and Trial (which I enjoyed reading even though I'm way over the boy band hardcore scene and I'm not sXe). An excellent zine that I hope to see continue. (MD)
PO Box 815 / Norton, MA 02766

RIOT COOKIE #2 / $?
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 14 pgs
A zine that seems like it's all about mainstream culture. Not only do you get talk about Courtney Love and the Foo Fighters, you get poetry, an interview with Nothing Substantial, commentary about Riot Grrrl, and an article that starts out "It's about 2:57 am and I have absolutely nothing to really say." Then why are you writing a zine?
PO Box 10058 / San Jose, CA 95157

SCALP ELEVATOR #1 / $3 ppd
6 x 6 - offset - 28 pgs
Named for a mortuary technician's tool, this is inspired by Kirst's job at the mortuary. I was hoping for gory details and insight behind the scenes but this zine deals more with the philosophical rather than the physicality of death. There are musings on life and death (mostly about being alive and worrying about death) such as making life worth living and the ultimate futility of tattoos. Think about it - even if you never disrobe again, eventually the undertaker's gonna see it so choose wisely.... A good portion of *Scalp Elevator* is from contributors like Layla from *Chimps* and a perspective on losing her mother from Vique of *Simba*. The best is a clearheaded view of a funeral by an athiest attending. (TX)
Kirst / 6 Kildonan Dr #3/2 / Glasgow, G11 7XA / Scotland

SCHISM #13 / $1.75 or $1 + 3 stamps
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 20 pgs
This is the one year anniversary issue, and I commend the fact that this is a monthly zine. This issue has a bunch of columns on different topics such as graffiti, looking back on the past year, infatuation, and more. Not a bad read, and it is definitely in the true DIY cut and paste style. Nice! (LU)
928 W. Norton Ave. Ste. 552 / Muskegon, MI. 49441

SCREAMS FROM INSIDE #666 / $1
8 1/2 x 11 – newsprint – 28 pgs
This is actually quite interesting. A good share of this zine is based on prison, law, etc., while the little other content is reviews. They cover topics like prison, letters from prisoners (which are always interesting), and a lengthy explanation about precisely what capitalism is, how it functions, and its many negative sides. While not exactly an uplifting read, it is good if you've been searching for something out of the norm. (RD)
Carissa / 23 Washington Terr / St. Louis, MO 63112

THE SET-UP # 1 / $1
8 1/2 x 11 - printed - 28 pgs
By a fellow who used to do something called *Scenester*. Royal Crown Revue, By the Grace of God, article by a Terri asking (and entitled) "What's Wrong With Hardcore?" making me want to tell her to shut the fuck up and listen to Mozart's Requiem; interviews with the Bouncing Souls, Debbie Gibson, NYC's Ida, a Long Island all-Jewish metalcore ensemble called the Sons of Abraham; more. But the editor liked Lost Highway, so I'm afraid his zine therefore sucks. (TD)
Jonny Cristol / 641 Broad Acres Road. / Narberth, PA 19072

SIDESHOW #1 / $9.99
8 x 10 1/4 - newsprint - 22 pgs
This is one of those zines in plastic wrap that come with a CD that you buy at truck stops in Colorado. If the editors of *YM* and *Tiger Beat* put out a fanzine, *Sideshow* would be it. The first article is an excellent satire on the Six Flags Superman ride as a nazi plot. It goes downhill from there into a slew of out-dated interviews transcribed from the editors' cable access show. The worst aspect by far was a girl rating bands by cute vs. ugly, which I kept trying to see as a joke, but really couldn't justify. The original stories were funny and well-written, but few and far between. (BC)
PO Box 461115 / Hollywood, CA 90046

SLEESTAK #8 / $1 + 2 stamps
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 40 pgs
Skateboarding in the Pacific Northwest. Photos, park reports, and 1997 event coverage, as well as a Gwar interview and humorous takes on getting revenge at work, ordering pizza, and computers in the movies - I.e. how really advanced computers emulate the sound of a dot-matrix printer as characters scroll across the screen. There's also some advice on lock-picking, and a profile of hesher band of the issue, Bolt Thrower. (AM)
PO Box 85317 / Seattle, WA 98145

SLIVER #3 / $3
8 1/2 x 11 - printed - 78 pgs
Big fat glossy thang with extremely high production values and pleasant-smelling, very white paper. Articles on Skinlab, Today Is The Day, Shift, Max Cavalleara, Will Haven, a pro-wrestling article, music reviews, including demo reviews, website reviews, more. Pro-looking enough to irritate those of us who are more fanatical than I about D-I-Y-style production values; its political bias may annoy or offend some lefty types as well. (TD)
27 Commercial Street / Gloucester, MA 01930

SLUG AND LETTUCE #52 / free
17 x 11 - newsprint- 16 pgs
Tons of record and zine reviews and a couple of seemingly out of place columns fill this zine. It's not that the columns are bad, just that there are only two of them and tons of reviews, which made this zine a bit wacky. But that shouldn't stop you from getting this zine, it has a great price and the reviews (as well as the few columns) are well written and informative. (LB)
PO Box 26632 / Richmond, VA 23261-6632

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING #39 / a stamp
7 x 8 1/2 - copied – 16 pgs
Here it is, folks, the token Christian zine of the scene,(he even lists the Circle One LP in his want list!). The great thing about this is that there is no preaching whatsoever, as one may assume, and there is a fantastic diatribe that raises holy hell (no pun intended) about the invasion of "Christian punk" bands like MxPx. This guy has a fine sense of humor, and he (and the rest of the writers) have managed to produce a fine opus that will have you forgetting the Christian side of it,

and enjoying the interesting, informative side of it. A hop and a skip above the past few. (RD)
516 Third St. NE / Massilon, OH 44646

SPAGHETTI DINNER & DANCING #11 / 2 stamps
5 1/2 x 7 1/2 - copied - 18 pgs
I have a soft-spot for Montana stories, having once lived in the Inland Northwest, and this one kept my interest. It's mostly about a guy spending the night alone in the woods to relieve stress, peppered with thoughts on jobs, friends, local politics, and sketches. Extremely disorganized, it reads like a letter written in the middle of the night, so hope you're not put off by that. The observations on local politics would be better if the author was better-informed, but he manages to make some insightful comments nonetheless. (BC)
PO Box 2536 / Missoula, MT 59806

SUBURBAN SUBWAY # 2 / $1 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 34 pgs
Portions of this zine are unreadable due to poor photocopying, but most of it is legible and contains interviews with AFI, Latex Generation and The Force. There is the obligatory show and music reviews and a couple of articles that give insight into the lives of Cleveland teenagers. (SS)
943 West Abbey Dry / Medina, OH 44256

SPANK #23 / $3. ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - printed - 48 pgs
Spank is one of the best music zines out there. Roughly half of it's 48 pages are filled with reviews; the rest is interviews. We're talkin' strictly meat and potatoes here. This time around, Michelle and Doug talked to The Promise Ring, The Necessary Evils, Death Star, Bantam Booster and Verbena. Good stuff. (JC)
1004 Rose Ave / Des Moines, IA 50315-3000

STRANDED #2 / free - send stamps
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 92 pgs
Contains... Bantam Rooster, the quotable Lester Bangs, Danko Jones, Cheater Slicks, freeze-dried icon Kim Fowley, a scholarly examination of the skinhead phenomenon, arguing the position of Buddy Holly as the true "King" of Rock and Roll, the art of Reverend Norbert Ugly, reviews, and much more. The best 'zine of the month because 1.) they choose to write about interesting or important bands 2.) it's more than fifteen pages stapled together for the sake of "doing a 'zine" and 3.) they can actually express themselves and their feelings about music articulately. It's free, but be polite and send some stamps. (JH)
91 E. Patterson Ave. / Columbus, OH 43202

SUPREME NOTHING #1 / $2 ppd
8 1/2 x 5 1/2 - copied - 40 pgs
The back cover says, "Garage-Rock Dreams of Tomorrow-Land". I guess that's a pretty good way of explaining this collection of black and white drawings by Brian Walker. Pictures of astronauts, monsters, aliens, zombies, pro-wrestlers, foxy ladies and hotrods, no text, and a couple of photographs. Comes with cool stickers and a little glider plane. (TT)
B. Walker / PO Box 7362 / Richmond, VA 23221-0362

SUSPECT DEVICE #29 / $?
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 58 pgs.
Decent zine out of the U.K. that focuses in J-Church, Snuff and Fat Wreck kords pop type stuff. With all of the reviews and interviews this zine is very informative but seeing that I'm not a huge fan of most of the bands covered I found it to be a bit boring. Lots of columns/rants, reviews and interviews so if you're interested in this type of stuff pick this up. If not, I'd pass. (RM)
PO Box 295 / Southampton SO17 1LW / England

TEEN FAG #6 / $3 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 40 pgs
This is like a "best of" of *TF* 1-5 and it is pretty good. There's a long, well done biography of Frances Farmer, telling how she was institutionalized against her will for being independent and outspoken. Also decent, entertaining interviews with Roberta Gregory (*Naughty Bits)*, and gay guys who took out personals ads or go to bathhouses; a story of a suicide attempt, and some comics. No ads or reviews. I wish it was cheaper, but that's my only complaint. (JM)
PO Box 20204 / Seattle, WA 98102

TEN FOOT RULE #2 / $1 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 20 pgs
This comic zine is pretty cool. The drawings, which mix Japanese cartoon style and traditional American underground elements, are great, but the stories, which are slice of life pieces, could use a bit of work to make them more interesting. Overall not bad but not great either. Tough call. (RM)
PO Box 943 / Southbury, CT 06488-0943

THIRTY ONE #2 / 2 stamps or trade
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 16 pgs
It says right on the front, "no reviews, no interviews". I like that. It also says "straight edge". I hate that. It's like watching someone put on a suit that doesn't fit. They say, "this sucks, this is too tight, this is too loose, this is ugly, maybe if I do this and fix this..." Just get a different suit! All you edgers ever do is complain about your scene, and I must agree, it is *lame*. When white suburban kids start thinking they're gangsters and stabbing people at shows, it's time to get out. I wouldn't even bother, but this guy actually has a lot of heart, and some things to say. Most noticeable was the part about growing up Black in a White neighborhood. *That's* interesting. Come join us, the regular people who aren't "skaters" or "straight edge", and you can be whoever the fuck you want. (GF)
PO Box 55603 / Hayward, CA 94545

THREE SHEETS TO THE WIND #2 / 2 stamps
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 40 pgs
This is a lot tamer than I expected after reading the cover warning about potentially offensive material. OK, the "White Trash Classics" and the rant against the French (which I'm assuming is tongue-in-cheek - does anyone really call them *frogs* anymore?) cross the PC line in the sand. Really, it's just the same sense of humor that causes editors of zines to review toilet stalls in various clubs and rewrite answers to Dear Abby letters. There's also some fiction, a good interview with a substitute teacher and, of course, reviews. Pleasantly surprising. (TX)
507B W 37th St / Austin, TX 78705

TOTALLY RAD KERNELS #7 / $2 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 22 pgs
The wide variety of zines that you get for $2 is really amazing. Some are completely jam packed, and others like this slim ska zine fill the space with words but not with substance. Some of the columns are way out in left field while others are just bland. They are filled with my biggest gripe against zine writing: putting yourself down. If you think your writing sucks or your band sucks, how do you expect anyone else to like it? There are also some reviews, info, news, and short interviews with Edna's Goldfish, The Worms, and Jeffrie's Fan Club. Even though I was disappointed with this zine overall, I have to point out that the music reviews are unusually long and indepth. So if you're a fan of ska and you can overlook the asterisks in the cuss words (f**kin-a!), then you might want to give this a chance, if only for the review section. (JA)
5275 Whisper Dr. / Coral Springs, FL 33067

TRASH-O-RAMA #12 / $1. ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 22 pgs
Another 'zine that doesn't make me want to put it down the moment I begin reading it. Simple enough formula: trashy movie and video reviews (actually well written!), ripped-off graphics from Grade-B horror and exploitation films, and more reading material for the punk rock set (Hanson Brothers, the Horshacks) and so forth. Cool 'zine, but you might want to think twice before sending them nude photos of yourself like they request. I wish I had. (JH)
709 Main Ave. / De Pere, WI 54115

TRIPPA SHAKE #8 / $2
11 x 8 1/2 - newsprint - 24 pgs - Italian
There is pretty much everything in this small zine. There are interviews with Fugazi, Brutal Truth, the Raws and the Oblivians. There are also plenty of music reviews and ads for cool record stores in northern Italy. (HH)
Ballini Stefano / Via Mocale79 / 50028 Tavarnelle VP (FI) / Italy

TROUBLE BOUND #7 / $2 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 32 pgs
One page on the importance of independent radio, and lots of interviews: the Siren Six!, Derailer, Venice Shoreline Chris, Jiffy Boy, Atari Teenage Riot, and one with the Bloodhound Gang that the interviewer swore was funny, although not to me. Lots of ska-related zine and record reviews, and a nice dedication to the author's girlfriend at the end. (BC)
8334 Alden Road / Lenexa KS 66215

TRUST #67 / $5
11 x 8 1/2 - printed - 68 pgs - German
Plenty of interviews in this issue with such bands as Fliehende Sturme, Kerosene 454, Iron Monkey, Euro Boys, Hankshaw, Bluetip, Streit and finally the Cramps. There are also some columns and lots of new music reviews. This zine is always a good place to check out the German scene. (HH)
Postfach 43 11 48 / 86071 Augsburg / Germany

TYPOGRAPUNX #5 / $1 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 12 pgs
As someone who is interested in design and typography, I was immediately drawn not only to this zine's subject matter, but also to its clearly elegant, minimalist design. Unfortunately, closer inspection revealed the content to be slightly lacking. There's some discussion of the review section of design magazine *Emigre*, a few basic definitions of simple design terms, and an interview with the zine's editor, by

himself, about his "print foundry", "em." Rather than encouraging an interest in the world of typography for uninitiated punks (who, by the way, could definitely use it), I found this zine to contain too many in-jokes, obscure references, and self-congratulation, the same problems I find with most of the professional graphic designers I come into contact with. Still, I'm all for more open discussion on the subject. I believe that when it comes to type, we all have something to learn. (AM)
15 Churchville Rd. #115-163 / Bel Air, MS 21014

UNDERACHIEVER #2 / $2 ppd
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 44 pgs
The hilarious drunken exploits of a Scottish ex-record shop salesperson in Sweden, put down on paper for all to see. Alongside the attitude-laden diatribes against practically everyone who's not Smiffy, we get a bunch of punk reviews, top ten embarrassing drinking stories, and interviews with Pink Kross, the No Talents, and Yuppiekrusher. Not bad for someone who put tiger balm on his dick because someone told him it would keep him hard all night. (AM)
Smith c/o Stevenson / Helgagatan 36 / Uppg. 9 / 11858 Stockholm / Sweden

UNDER THE VOLCANO #41 / $2.00 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - offset - 46 pgs
Magazinish-fanzine featuring the blurry faces of the Mono Men on its cover, as well as Black Army Jacket, Anti-Flag, the Judas Iscariot, columns, music reviews, a sports page (?), local Long Island news, and other punk rock goings on. (JH)
PO Box 236 / Nesconset, NY 11767

US TRASH #2 / 2 stamps
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 40 pgs
A sincere, decent punk zine with a lot of personal opinions and politics. The VooDoo Glow Skulls interview exposes them for the idiots they seem to be, and there's a lot of writing on the military, hunting, the scene, Mumia and some other random bits and pieces. (MD)
PO Box 5816 / Edmond, OK 73083-5916

VICTIMS OF CIRCUMSTANCE #2 / $2.00
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 32 pgs
This is an appealing little zine with a refreshingly naive outlook and a lot of enthusiasm. there's nothing particularly new or ground breaking here, but so what. it's well done, it's fun to read, and it's a sure cure for cynicism about punk, and what's happening to the scene. Interviews with Spazz and The Automatics and a not bad cassette compilation. (JW)
148 Papscoe Rd. / Hewitt, NJ 07421

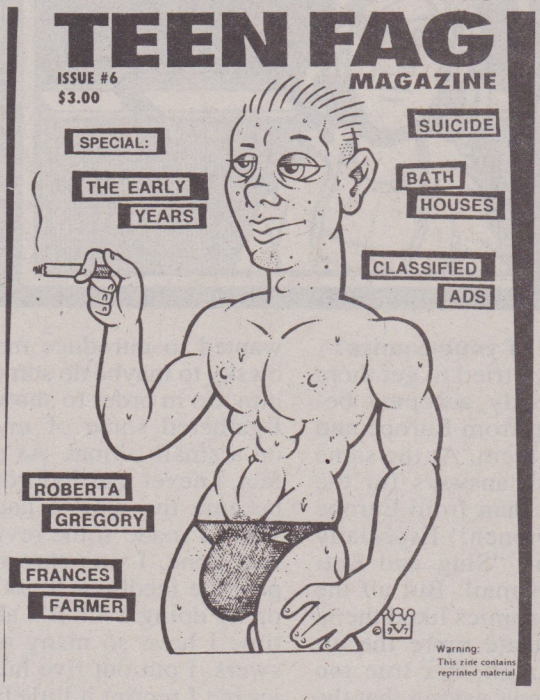
WARWICK DAVIS #7 / $1 ppd
8 1/2 x 5 1/2 - copied - 36 pgs
Not to be superficial, but this zine needs a good staplin' and some cover art. The zine is written as one big endless column with some great writing hidden in the hullabaloo of words. Clean it up a bit and improve the format and this will be a great zine. (LB)
Brittany / 42W985 Faireno Dr. / Elburn, IL 60119

WOUNDIG #5 / $1.50
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 44 pgs
Pick of the month! Who'd have thought such a great zine would come out of Nelson? This is brim full of useful stuff - tips on residential hotel living, how to use jumper cables, info on cholesterol, silkscreening, coffee, Nike corporation's evil tactics and more. All this plus a long comic about friendship on a night of drunken hijinx. Recommended. (TX)
Kristy / 104 Union St / Nelson, BC / V1L 4A2 / Canada

ZINE GUIDE #1 / $4 ppd or trade
8 1/2 x 11 - printed - 100 pgs
Huge + professional looking (from the folks who do *Tail Spins*), this is mostly (pgs 9-75 @ about 28 listings a page) zine listings (not reviews)—you get price and contents, sometimes for multiple issues. There are also classifieds, ads and band + person indexes, so you can see who was interviewed where. A lot of time, effort, and computers must have gone into this. If you're trading it seems like a good deal. (JM)
PO Box 5467 / Evanston, IL 60204

MORE LISTINGS

BELLY-ACHE #1 / 50¢-$1???
Ugh. Waste of paper mostly consisting of really dumb reviews of bad records, and some ads. Sloppy layout too. I think it was supposed to be funny.
725 E. Adelphi Dr. Box 305 / Tempe, AZ 85281



CHUMPIRE 94 / one stamp
Curious piece of paper with reviews and a touching article about the author's father dying.
PO Box 680 / Connecticut Lake, PA 16316-0680

COLLEGE BOY / 32 cent stamp
One 8 1/2 x 11 page with an autobiographical comic about college and work. A mini issue of Gullible zine, 2 copies for one stamp.
Chris Terry / PO Box 4909 / Richmond, VA 23220

HEADLINE RECORDS FLYERS #1 / $?
A thick collection of fliers from shows that have happened at Headline Records in L.A.. Seems like a cool shop.
2025 Westwood Blvd. / Los Angeles, CA 90025

KICK IN THE BALLS #? / $2 ppd
This is a oi zine out of Britain. Interviews with The Reducers and Contempt. British football coverage, record reviews, contact list.
40 Grafton Court / Canning Circus / Nottingham / N97 39H / UK

NOWHERE FAST #4 / $1.00 or stamps
Little stories, a long tour story, which vegan is more vegan.
Jen / PO Box 235 / Jerico, VT 05465

NUTHIN' #1 / $1 ppd or trade
Pleasant enough perzine with lots of little stories about day to day life. Not the best of its genre.
PO Box 11751 / Eugene, OR 97440

PAY NO ATTENTION TO WHAT'S BEHIND THE CURTAIN / $4 ppd
Newsletter spelling out the pitfalls of signing to a major label. Comes with CD comp.
Spine Punch Distro / 46 Oberholtzer Rd. / Bechtelsville, PA 19505

ROCKFORD SUCKS #2 / $2
Reviews, Horoscopes, Columns, Band interviews with Hum, Peter Jennings Disciples (??!!), and the Carwax kings.
PO Box 7172 / Rockford, IL 61126-7172

SCHUELL #7 / $1 ppd
Nearly one forth of this is reviews. Also band interviews about 80's TV shows and a tirade about a customer where the editor prints her phone number for revenge.
PO Box 4663 / Lafayette, IN 47903

SKELETONS IN THE CLOSET #3 / $1 ppd
A very little zine with the editor's explanation of why she's an "equalist" rather than a feminist. Spice Girls, poetry, self-mutilation.(MJ)
Liz Glynn / 109 Hollis Ave. / Braintree, MA 02184

SLUT #53 / $1.00
More or less random writings on a variety of more or less random subjects. Not entirely unlikable, but lacking that certain something that would set it apart from the teeming masses all screaming "Read Me".
41 Cornbury Ct. / Owings Mills, MD 21117

TRASH #1 / stamps
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - copied - 20 pgs
Sloppy, riot grrrl-ish punk stuff - domestic abuse, vegan recipes, reviews, the scene, feminism.
Dawn McMurray / PO Box 29102 / Thunder Bay, ON / P7B 6P9 / Canada

TURNING THE TIDE Vol 10 #4 / $5
A valuable resource for anti-racist activists or people interested in the fight against the system... Within; Jericho Œ98, Cointelpro, Confronting Fascism, Aids, etc.
PO Box 1055 / Culver City, CA 90232

UGLY AMERICAN #1 / 2 stamps or $1 ppd
Local band profiles, Lillingtons and Descendents interviews.
Room E363 / 614 Delaware St./ Minneapolis, MN 55455

UNDERDOG #22 / $4
Sort of long-running zine that's lacking in the content department. Too many ads and a slick look that detracts from being able to enjoy the zine.
2206 N. Rockwell St. / Chicago, IL 60647-3004

URBAN GUERRILLA ZINE #1 / $2 ppd
A fundraiser for Poop Records. Political articles on Carlos Fuentes and excerpts from a Geronimo Pratt speech. Record reviews.
1442A Walnut St #419 / Berkeley, CA 94708

RAD PARTY

Stéphane Delevaque passed by the Bay this summer, the opportunity was knocking at the door to finally meet him and make a small interview that he deserved with all the things he's involved in. Conducted in August '97 by Le Bouffon (with no notes) at the Epicenter.

MRR: Stéphane Delevaque, his life and his work in thirty seconds...

Stephen: Well, it's been ten years that I make some zines and some artwork related to punk, even a little metal in the beginning.

MRR: Art lead to music or the contrary?

Stephen: It's been always the drawing. I draw since very young. It's mainly punk and HC jackets, those you can unfold and where you can draw whatever you want, that attracted me in the first place. It's this idea of mixing music and artwork that I try to reach. I've been really influenced by "Love &-Rockets" from the Hernandez Brothers where there was a lot of references to punk, also "Hectic Planet" where the guy was mixing ska and cartoons.

MRR: Have you been always into American comics?

Stephen: In fact, it's by chance. I didn't read a lot of American cartoons before '90. I was more into French and Belgian stuff. The things that gave me the envy to draw were Franquin and Yann & Conrad. What I liked was their really acid humor and of course the drawings. There was a lot of topics that weren't easy to talk about in a magazine primarily dedicated to teens. I think I would have liked to work on stuff for teens. I liked a lot the British cartoons too, like "Tank Girl".

MRR: But your art is really closed to American comics...

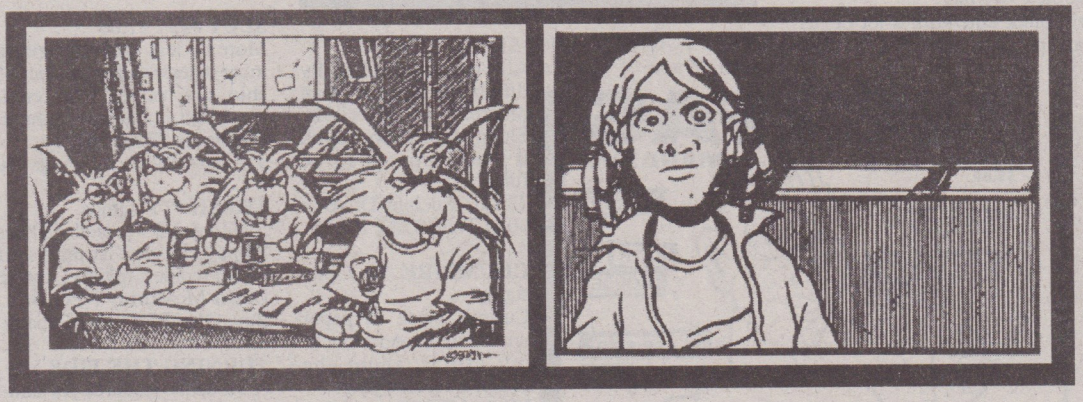
Stephen: It's because the European cartoon is something too sophisticated for me. In the independent comics (it's the same thing with punk), you think "I can do that too", that's what I liked.

MRR:-Do you think that comics can work in Europe?

Stephen: I think it's really hard. Europe has some habits and I don't think people are ready to change. Plus the people who read my stuff are almost exclusively into punk. As for the way it looks, it's not as attractive as the average cartoon so I don't know if it can work. And then in France you have two schools: a classical one with the "real"-book and one more underground with a particular style which is very messy and I-don't like it that much. I like a clear line with some black and white nuances. And it's practical too cause I-can xerox it, it doesn't cost that much and I can do what I want.

MRR: Self edition: a choice or an obligation?

Stephen: An obligation. I've tried for a while to get published but in fact, I didn't really have the time to do it well, with my job and studies. It always ended up with negative answers or no answer at all. That's how I came to self edition.



MRR: What were the reactions to the english version of your comics?

Stephen: It's funny, I tried to get them distributed but nobody accepted because it was coming from Europe and nobody would buy them. At the same time, I get as much answers for the zine from the USA than from Europe and the zine is in French!! Especially after the reviews in "Slug and Lettuce", I got a lot of mail. But all the people who got the comics liked them. I think they appreciate more the art than the stories though. It's true too that I got some reviews saying that the English level was pretty poor, ah, ah, it was in "Punk Planet", I thought it was pretty funny.

MRR: Could you tell us how you arrived to "Rad Party"?

Stephen: I've tried to put out my first zine in '86, it was written by hand already but never came out because I didn't know how to do it and it seemed ridiculous to put out something written by hand at a time when everything was printed. The first real one was in '87, we were four people and we mixed a lot of different styles, I was in charge of the HC-part. In fact, I had to do the layout by myself. Then I started my own zine "Sang & Sueur" (*Blood & Sweat*). I did one issue a year, all alone but it was too much work so I stopped. Then I did a free mini zine that was called "On n'est pas la pour se faire engueuler" (*We're not here to get yelled at*), also some other mini comics full of crap. Then I stopped. Around '90 I tried to do a newsletter that was already called "Rad Party", I did three issues with absolutely no feed back so I stopped. In '92 I fell on "Cometbus" and "Reality Control", I liked a lot the spirit , the way it looked, very small, hand written and anybody could write whatever they wanted, there was a lot of stuff in them. It made me feel like re activating "Rad Party" in '94 and as I didn't have a word processor anymore, I did it by hand. It's more convenient cause I can do it anywhere anytime. In fact, I had a friend who wanted to introduce me to Jodorowsky to maybe do something with him. So in order to show my work, I-gathered some of my drawings on a small format. As a matter of fact, I never met Jodorowsky but it became the zine. I had an interview, I made some reviews and it was done. I was surprised by the positive feedback it got and I kept on by doing a #5. It's also the first time I have so many positive answers. I put out five hundred copies but I reprint it little by little so I don't really count. I give a lot of them, not to say that I give everything away, ahaha .

MRR: Where does the name come from?

Stephen: It comes from "Tank Girl". They had to find some beer and one of the characters yelled "Rad Party", I liked that. A lot of people thought it was related to politics...

MRR: Will there be a following to your collaboration with Aaron Cometbus?

Stephen: No, I think it'll stop here. When Aaron put out all his writings about his trip to Europe, I felt like printing a French version and to distribute it here, maybe even to print a French "Cometbus" on a regular base. Aaron refused cause he had experienced a lot of bullshit with European distributors with Crimpshrine so he doesn't want to put up with Europe anymore. But he told me that he was interested in doing a French version of some of his texts, I told him that I liked the idea. So he selected thirty of his stories and two friends of mine translated them, it's been long cause it took us a year to put this out but it was a lot of work and I wrote everything by hand. I thought that except me and my two friends, maybe nobody would be interested in reading this but we got a lot of positive answers. I'm surprised that so many people liked it.

MRR: The record label is the logical continuity?

Stephen: It's an old dream. I wanted to do that seven or eight years ago but I didn't have the money nor the time. Now I said "let's try", but it's more to please myself. I lose money on everything, comics and shirts so I think it'll be the same with the records but as I told you, I please myself. It's a limited quantity cause I don't have enough money to press more than four hundred copies. In the beginning I wanted to put out a compilation cd but I didn't get enough bands to fill it up. I was embarassed for the bands who sent me something so I've decided to put out some split 7'. The first one is with Nothing Cool and Spazz Boy, two bands who are playing melodic HC. The second one is with Urbn Dk and Los Subversivos from south America. The third one should be with the Perfect Cousins from France and an American band but I'm waiting for the tape. We have a lot of ideas for the future but we'll see how it goes with these ones first. I've been a lot influenced by the first Very Small Records and the first Lookout Records, there was that friendly look that I liked a lot so I tried to follow the paths. The label is the continuity of the mix comics/music.

MRR: What's the name of the label?

Stephen: Small Budget Productions, like the zines, comics and shirts. Actually, we started all that more to put out some readings, that's why Aaron's book fits in well and we also have a novel by Yves who's doing "My World Is..."-zine. Music came after. Punk is more about music, readings are forgotten and we wanted to work on that.

MRR: Epitaph just created a subdivision ran by Tim Armstrong that's gonna put out ska and street punk. Do you think that ska is the next prey for majors?

Stephen: Certainly but it's strange that it comes back only now. I caught up with ska in the '80's with Operation Ivy and some more classical bands. It's true that in music, you have some cycles, we got the '70's revival, then the grunge stuff, then punk and now ska. It's weird to see some straight ska coming back though cause everybody thought that some bands like the Toasters would stay in the underground movement, nobody had thought that they could become a fashion but it seems to work. Punk is spreading apart too much for me. People create some gangs and they don't mix the way they used to. In the '80's the punk scene was a big thing cause it was a gathering of industrial music, punk, hc, ska, reggae and it was a whole thing. Today, the styles are more defined and it's pretty weird. And then the '77 punk puts me in a strange mood. In Europe, people wore the outfit again in listening to American bands then the American bands started to listen to old European bands and came back with the old look, and now '77 punk is back in Europe. It's hard to follow.

MRR: So what's your impression of Gilman Street?

Stephen: I really wanted to go but in fact, the other places I went are as good. I've seen some bands in a garage and some at Punks With Presses, and they were good too. In fact what's done in Paris at the Bar Asso is smaller but it's the same feeling. Gilman is great for the initiative and the years it's been working, it's great to have been able to keep the place. In Paris in the '80's, you had to find a new place every time, it was always a mess. Gilman is great cause they manage to run it without the usual troubles like alcohol, drugs, violence, vandalism... everything that gives a negative impression.

MRR: The future?

Stephen: Well, I'm working on the next issues of "Rad Party", I also prepare a little collection of stories, kind of retrospective of the people I met in all these years. I'd like to find some time to draw more cause someone proposed me to put out a comic but I've never been able to work on it because of the zine, my job and the studies. In fact my main priority is to finish my studies in order to keep my job cause if I have no job I won't be able to do what I'm doing.

You can reach Stephen c/o Small Budget Productions/ BP 07/ 78110 Le Vesinet/ France

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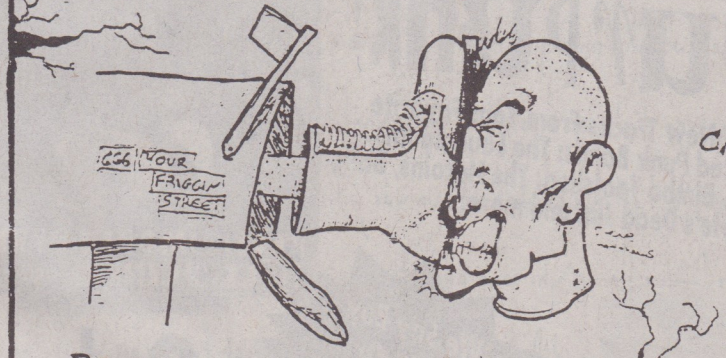

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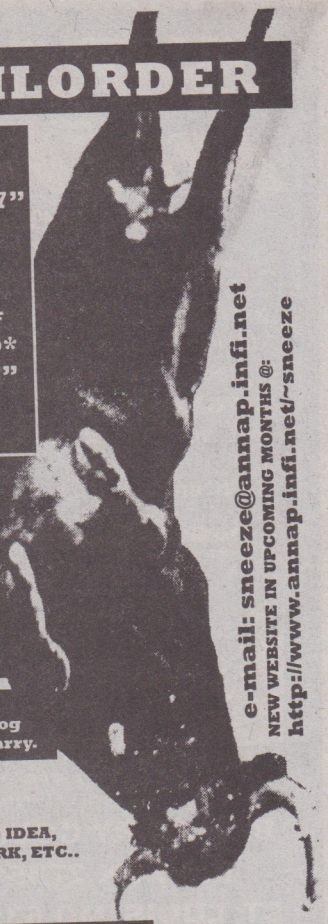

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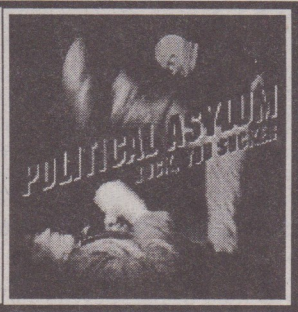

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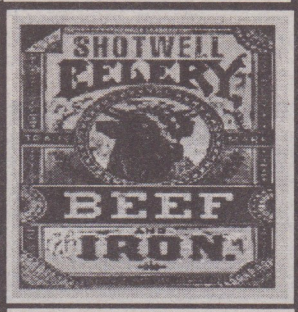

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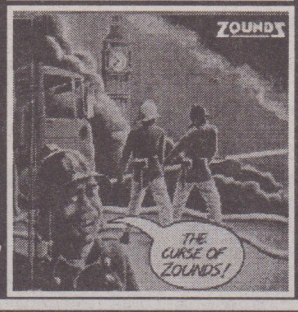

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MAXIMUMROCKNROLL music classifieds

Attention Classifieds Readers: When responding to these ads remember that the world of MRR readers is not a punk rock utopia where everyone is looking out for everyone else and we're all cool... Be careful what you tell people and be careful who you send money to. There are people out there in punkland who will try to rip you off, exploit you or manipulate you. I can't tell you how scared I feel when I see an ad that begins "16 year old girl running away from home needs places to crash..." Anyway, that said, we're interested in hearing your stories about MRR classifieds for an upcoming article, either really bad or really good experiences. How many marriages began through these pages? How many people have been really ripped off? (i.e. not just a few bucks for a zine or a demo) Let us know. Send responses (typed or on disk if possible) to the mag c/o Allan.

WORLDWIDE PUNKROCK for sale. 2000 items 7"/12"/Albums. I've got megarare stuff as well as usual stuff. Also got indie/mod/powerpop records. The list is full of Killed by Death, Back to Front, Bloodstains stuff like: Anarchy, Briard, Shit Dogs, Rattus, Eat, Bastards, Victims, Razar, Glueams, Fresh Color, Nabat, Kriminella Gitarrer, Paraf, Stalin, Friction, Liket Lever, Chain Gang + much more. Trades welcome! Send 3 IRC's or $ 2 for complete list to Ingo Eitelbach, P.O. Box 1319, 23833 Bad Oldesloe, Germany, Fax +49 4531 67733 (Tel 67438), Email 101603.2202@ compuserve.com, http://ourworld. compuserve. com/homepages/IngoE

THE PISS SHIVERS, those beer loving "Rock Gods", have a new CD entitled "Hepped up on Goofballs". Anti-commercial, DIY punk for a mere $3 ppd. Payable to: Cedric Crouch, 46 Oberholtzer Rd., Bechtels-ville, PA 19505. Distros, we will also trade.

YOUR MOTHER seeks fan base. Lonely? Desperate to belong? No taste? Join us. SASE with a picture and an embarrassing story about yourself to PO Box 623/ Pleasanton, CA 94566/ USA

VIDEOS - PAL (UK etc) & NTSC (USA etc). Trade/sale. Thousands of shows/promos/tv clips. Stuff like Propagandhi, Business, Screeching Weasel, Zounds, Exploited, Poison Idea, DK's, Blitz, Supersuckers, Conflict, Dwarves, GG, Dickies, Descendents, Operation Ivy, Radio Birdman, Misfits, Subhumans, Snuff, Gin Goblins. SAE (UK), 2IRC's (overseas) or decent trades list: Dave, 50a Great King St., Edinburgh, Scotland. E-mail: gingoblin@easynet.co.uk

SCUMFEST 98 for info on the most extreme punk fest in 98 to be held aug.98 , send stamp to Andy Miller, 2326 Sheffield Rd. Raleigh, NC 27610 or call 919-833-6520.

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70'S PUNK T-SHIRTS, stickers & records for sale! GenX, Dead Boys, MC5, 999, Johnny Thunders, Vibrators, Buzzcocks & many more! Any size, any color! Also rare 45's & lp's. Send for info. Kate P.O. Box 4054, Carlsbad, CA 92018-4054 or send detailed wants.

FOR SALE EPs/LPs punk/HC 80's/90's. 2nd hand. Send nothing for list. 200 items. Write to: Mario Guerrero/Carders 32 4º3ª /08003 Barcelona/Spain.

WANTED! LOU MIAMI and Kozmetix/ Fascist Lover, Razar/Stamp out Disco, Rude Norton/Sea Cruise, Seventeen/Don't Let Go, Xpress/Junked-up Judy, etc. Please send me your list. To: Yuji Egashira, 57-11 Ohkubo Ryoke, Urawa-shi Saitama, 338 Japan. Fax 048-854-5565.

LOOKING FOR Fastbacks... And His Orchestra CD, other Fastbacks CD's, Cocksparrer CD & old Star Wars figures. Misfits lyric sheets $5, every song good sound w/lyrics $15. No Comment - demo, green vinyl 7" $3, Government Issue - Fun & Games 7" $8, All items ppd USA. Heckle & Jeckle, 27361 Sierra Hwy #185. Canyon Country CA, 91351.

HARDSHIP 12" $7 PPD. See MRR #176 for review. Also available, Hardship/Bastard Children of The Roman Empire 7" and the soon to be out of print, Hardship /Gun Pro split 7". 7"er's $3 ppd. Cash or M.O. to: Stealth Ordeal Records, 2825 E. Burnside, Portland, OR., 97214.

GEMM/GLOBAL ELECTRONIC music marketplace. http://gemm.com. An internet site where you can buy or sell anything you can buy or sell anything music related. List whatever you sell or create for free. Four years on the internet. 1200 vendors/2 million items.

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WANTED (Original 1st pressings only); Nubs:I Dont Need 7"(wp $150),Hollywood Squares:Hillside Strangler 7"(wp $200),Johnny Demon & Devils:Make Me Spew 7"~wp $150),Tapeworm:Break My Face (wp $200),Hugh Beaumont Experience:Cone Johnson 7"(wp $300), Helen Killer:Surfin w/ Steve 7" (wp $100). Spys:Underground 7" (wp $100), Thought Criminals:Hilton Bomber 7" (wp $200), Absentees:Trying To Mess 7" (wp $200), Child Molesters:Wholes~le Murder 7" (wp $250) etc 70 s & early 80 s punkrock obscurities from all around the world! ! ! 1 buy or trade so write,call or send fax/email to: A.A R. c/o Jukka W-M Sateri, PO Box 174, FIN-11 101 Riihimaki, Finland. tel/fax + +358 19 721328,tel + +358 40 5481267, email jukka.sateri~aar.inet.fi

READ THIS QUOTE!!! (it's part of an actual letter from Illinois) "...I was wondering what the scoop was with your distro since I haven't heard anything or seen an ad lately, until I was fingering thru the classifieds of MRR recently. Well, I think you carry some excellent stuff. Other people must think Hawaii bands aren't very good but boy are they missing out esp. w/ The Raymonds + The Catalogs..." Thanks!! — Hawaiian Express (Mail-Order Distribution) @ POB 777, Byron, CA 94514, or HWNEXP@AOL.COM.

JOIN THE CULT! Boo-hoo, poppy punk rock isn't *popular* anymore... Now only the True Believers are getting their monthly Mutant Pop catalogs, stuffed with hundreds of killer $3 EPs and $10 CDs. Small edition DIY projects. Killer labels like Mutant Pop, Lookout!, Jaw, Bulge, Second Guess, and Pelado. Imports. Free catalog: Mutant Pop, 5010 NW Shasta, Corvallis, OR 97330.

DOOM/BLACK/HC/PUNK videos: Pentagram, KYUSS, Fu Manchu, Enslaved, Type O, Dead Boys, Thunders, Nashville Pussy, Motorhead, Death SS, Vitus, Sleep, EyeHateGod, Tank, Plasmatics, Negative Approach, DYS, Insaints, Deceased, Hawkwind, Carnivore, Girlschool. $2.00 for 50 page list. Mike, PO Box 226, Merrifield, VA 22116-0226 USA

ATTENTION! All goth/noise/ambient/grind/hardcore bands. Cerebrum Records is looking for bands to be on our "Video Disease" video compilation. It costs you nothing and is free exposure for your band. So what are you waiting for...All we need is a VHS recording of your band live or otherwise. Write for more info. Cerebrum Records, 243 W. Noble, East Canton

FOR TRADE: old Dutch punk: Vopo's 1st lp, Mirandas 2nd 7", Bunker 7", Squits 7", Cheap N' Nasty 7", Agent Orange 'VD' 7", Mets/Ultrakort split lp, Rondos 'Fight Back' 7", Panic '13' 7", Swiss compil. lp 'Geneve Soif' (84') w/ discolokosst.....Will trade for Pushead fanclub 7"'s, rare Nirvana vinyl, early punk/hardcore from Japan, USA, Europe, Australia. Trade/wantlists welcome. Filip De Volder, 1 Rue Des Marchanda, 66500 Prades, France

MEGARARE Finnish Punkrock Obscurities for Sale or Trade, like; Maho Neitsyt: Mita On Punk? 7", Briard: all 7"s & LP, Destroy: Sanoja 7", Rattus:Khomeini Rock 7", Stalin:Chaos 7", Neuroosi:Rock 7", Against Seija Isonsaari 7" (rarest European punk single, 10 exist!!!), Kasvain:Onko Suomi Usattunut 7", Nauta:Onko Suomi Vapaa Maa 7", 000:Oodeja Simasuille 7" & LP, Taavi & Rytmiryhma:Aanilevyko 7" etc... available almost all early finnpunk wonders so check my wants ad and offer trade (prefer) or send serious money offers!!!!! (Massive catalogue for $2 or 3x IRC) Write, call or send fax/email to: A.A R. c/o Jukka W-M Sateri, PO Box 174, FIN- 11101 Riihimaki, Finland. tel/fax + +358 19 721328,tel + +358 40 5481267, email jukka.sateri~aar.inet.fi

PUNK 7" WANTED!!! Absenteese, Anorexia, Crap Detectors, Disorder - Airraid, Epicycle, Headaches, Horror Comic- I Don't Mind, Letters, Lou Miami, Mad - Eyeball, Maids, Meaty Buys, Normals, Peer Pressure, Razar, Rejects, Rude Norton, Tapeworm, Violators - NY Ripper, etc. . Please send me your list!! Satoshi Saski/7-22-3,Gumizawa/ Totsuka-Ku, Yokohama-Shi/Kanagawa,245-0061/Japan.

FOR SALE: The Rickets/Neurotiks split 7". $3ppd to Aaron / 3930 S.E. 28th place / Portland / OR., / 97202.

MAXIMUMROCKNROLL music classifieds

ANTISEEN: FIRST EP 'Drastic' rare, will take best offer; other rare Eps by GG Allin available. Send SASE to: Kickstand; PO Box 4830; Rock Hill, SC 29730-6830 or email: kikstand@cetlink.net for list.

PUNK RECORDS for sale / trade - 1000+ Crucifix; Disorder; FU's; Big Boys; Poision Idea; Mau Maus; Rattus; Code of Honor; Christian Parade; Antischism; Broken Bones; E.N.T.; S.O.B.; Oi Polloi; Partisans; Last Resort; Sore Throat; Wipers & more! Send SASE for list: Paul; PO Box 1024; Port Townsend, WA 98368

GEEKING DREAM by the Pimps includes "K-9 Christ", "My Dad Smokes Crack", "Strap-on Sally" on cassette, some with sticker. You will see crushed body parts in the street. Only $4 send to: CNF/ PO Box 9152/ Virginia Beach, VA 23450

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BANDS WANTED FOR a benefit comp. tape. When finished each band will get a copy to dub and sell in their area and give profits to a local FNB/soupkitchen/foodbank. If interested send a two-minute song to: Lionel/Box 812/Cornwall/PEI/COA 1H0/Canada. All styles of punk/hc welcome but nothing racist, homophobic or sexist.

SEX PISTOLS VHS, live in Tokyo - Japan 11/16/96. (from Japanese cable TV). Whole show, perfect quality!!! Worth checking it out!! 420 ppd (US)/$23 (world). Jun Kato, 6231 N. Whipple St. Chicago, IL 60659 USA.

GEEKING DREAM by the Pimps includes "K-9 Christ" "My dad smokes crack," "Strap-on sally" on cassette, comes with sticker. You will see crushed body parts in the street. Only $4, send to: CNF PO Box 9152, Virginia Beach, VA., 23450.

7" AUCTION: Iconoclast (1984), Asbestos Death 'Dejection' & 'Unclean', Nausea 'Cybergod' (red), Charred Remains/ Pink Turds (2nd press), Acme 'Blind", Melvins 5", Soup, NUFAN 'Let em...' (green), Fu Manchu 1st, v/a 'Blleeaauurrgghh' & 'Son of ...' , v/a 'Caution' (Crimpshire...), v/a 'Coffee' (Filth, Fuel...), Crimpshire/Mutley Chix. Auction ends last day of cover month. Radio Kilroy Auction; 122 - 44th St.; Grand Rapids, MI 49548

COLLECTABLE PUNK RECORDS for sale or trade: Anti-Dote/Beastie boys/DOA/Eat/Enemy(US)/Rotters/SOA(Green)/Subhumans/Vains/VKTMS/Crucifix/Yes La/V/A-10 29 79/Personality Crises//// I want:Detention/Mad-Eyeball/Hart Attack-Death../Fix-Vegence///PH#(425)774-6229/ Jason:PO Box 2223/Lynnwood/Wa., / 98036/ USA/E-mail: JXMBWF@aol.com.

FOR TRADE (All originals, No bullshit!); Maggots;Tammy Wynette 7", Xtraverts:Blank Gen 7", Gears:Let's Go 7",Fresh Color:Source 7", Baloney Heads:I'rn A Drunk 7", Freeze:Tourists 7", Checklnate:Only F;ools 7", Sods:Television Sect 7", Breakouts:All We 7", Paere Punk LP, Stalin:Stalinism 7", Brulbajz:Dodens apostlar 7", Nasty Facts:Drive My Car 7" etc etc tons more all around the world!!! I trade or sell.(Massive catalogue for $2 / 3 x IRC) Write,call or send fax/email to: A.A R. c/o Jukka W-M Sateri, PO Box 174, FIN- 11101 Riihimaki, Finland. tel/ fax + +358 19 721328,tel + +358 40 5481267, email jukka.sateri~aar.inet.fi

JENNY KRUCKEBERG, Robert Waugh, Damon Eversole, Wendi Gibson and Avie in Malaysia: Packages sent to you bave been returned. Get in touch to claim your stuff. Sound Idea/PO Box 3204/Brandon, FL 33509-3204 USA. Call (813) 653-2550

NO CLASS 6 SONG 7" out for 3 bux, No Class 11 song tape out for 3 bux, No Class split CD w/ the Tone Deaf Pig Dogs out in March, write for free stickers and stuff. PO Box 6165, Rome, GA 30162 - noclass@aol.com. Oh yea by the time this gets in here, we'll be on tour probably, so look for us. Oh yea again, we're fast + more fast if ya were wondering.

PUNK ROCK RECORDS 70s, 80s, 90s, lo fi, hi fi, Dangerhouse, Radio X, Estrus, Sub Pop, Sympathy, Empty, etc... Blitzkrieg Mailorder / 920 Merced Ave. / South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

SUPERCHARGER D.I.Y. RELEASE on Radio X, mint condition, - best offer above $50.00 - Jason Minzke / 920 Merced Ave. / South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

WANTED!! ANY OF the following on *compact disc*: Accused "The Return" (1st LP), Cryptic Slaughter "Convicted", Dr. + the Crippens (any but the live CD), Die Kruezen (1st LP), Hirax "Raging + Hate" (one CD), Ludichrist (1st LP), Necrovore, Sodom (1st EP), Stark Raving Mad, Wehrmacht, I know they're out there! Buy or trade (reasonable prices). Darren C. / 7311 S. Congress / Austin, TX 78745. (512) 447-7074. Thanks

ALANS: PUNK ROCK/HARDCORE shop and mailorder, established 1981. We carry old and new records, CDs, t-shirts, zines and other stuff. Lots of second hand UK & US punk at good prices. Skate shop too! Web site: www.alans.co.uk. Email: mrr@alans.co.uk. Alans, 53 Mesnes St., Wigan, WN1 1QX, England. For catalogue send SASE (UK) or IRC (overseas.)

LET'S TRADE rare and not so rare punk, hardcore, thrash, crust, death, vinyl,; A.O.D. "Whacky..." lp, Spazz "Dwarf..." lp, Half Off lp(poster), Hellnation 1st ep, Rudi.Peni "Death Church" (poster sleeve), Circle One "Patterns..." lp, Nausea (LA) lp plus 100 others. Wants: Wretched "Libero..." lp, Nuclear Death/Genital Deformitiesa, Mortal Terror/Aural Corpse, Dystopia/Embittered split lps, Contropotere 1st lp, Asbestos Death 1st ep, Deathside, Inferno, ...the list goes on. Eric/2548-A Meadow St./San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, USA

SLAP HAPPY RECORDS is looking for bands for comps, splits, and maybe full lengths. Send demos to PO Box 249, Byron, CA 94514. (510)634-3580 (Ted). slaphappyrecords@hotmail.com www.geocities.com/~slaphappyrec/

ACTITUD SUBVERSIVA new tape out 'Ni tu, Ni dios, Ni el Mundo' 6ppd USA 7ppd world. distro get in touch, trade welcome. Calin Dover; 123 c/Marte; Isla Verde P.R. 00979 (not usa). Thanks for support for last tape.

LOOKING FOR Knots 7"(NY) - Nothing 7" (NY) - Vectors 7" (CA) - Dot Vaeth 7" (TX) - Panics 7" (FL) - Eat 7" (FL) + Euro early punk - have lots to trade... PO Box 812, Newtown, NSW 2042, Australia

LP AUCTION: Crimpshire 'Lame Gig', Eye Hate God 'In the Name..' (banned cover), DRI 'Dirty Rotten LP', Final Conflict 'Ashes' (1st press w/book), Capitalist Causualties 'Disassemly'. Auction ends last day of cover month. Radio Kilroy Auction; 122 44th St. SE; Grand Rapids, MI 49548

"DEMONS" ELECTROCUTE EP: tough guy hot rod punk from Sweden. "The 'Spinal Tap' of punk bands," MRR #176, available on Ruff-nite Records. Also Limecell/Savage 3-D, Antiseen/Rancid Vat, Seducer/Buzzcrusher split 7"s, Buzzcrusher EP, Hellstomper Bootleggers and Ridgerunners EP. 7"s are $3 ea/$5 world ppd. Cash/money orders to: Mike Cooper / 3249 Rorer St. / Phila, PA 19134 USA

NEW MAILORDER! Send a stamp for a list of cool records ranging from punk to garage. New catalogs will be sent to you every month and weekly catalogs will be sent on request. E-mail catalog soon... Act Your Rage / 3244 Locke Ln. / Houston, TX 77019-6208 / # (713) 526-7565 / jchrist743@aol.com

WANT!!... I'm looking for American HC 80's - 90's (records, t-shirts, flyer copy). Touch and Go, Dischord, Revelation, Rat Cage, Taang, X-Claim, Pusmort, Nemesis, etc.. I want to trade or buy. Please send me your sale list and trade list. I have a lot of Japanese HC records. Please get in touch. From Ariyoshi Hoshino, 2-3-10-101, Daita, Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo, Japan.

DEAD BEAT RECORDS distro rates...Hey people, help me get rid of these muthafuckin records. My office ain't gettin any bigger and my release roster ain't gettin no smaller. I'm always looking for active people in the scene who can get this stuff out to more people that love the punk rock. I mean I know that my stuff isn't available in alot of the smaller towns across America and beyond. That's why I rely on the underground to help me get my records in these regions. 1. All prices are Post Paid in the US and sent special standard 4th class. International orders sent surface. If you want airmail, please add .50 per 7"/ and $1.00 per LP/CD/10".

DEAD BEAT RECORDS cont. 2. The minimum order to receive these distro rates is $50, no exceptions. So you can't order 2 7"s and send 4 bickies. You laugh, but it's happened in the past. You can only get these rates if you wanna distro this sheeeyat. 3. All orders sent out the following day we receive them. Waiting on mail order sucks, so we're not gonna make you wait a month for your order. Dead Beat Records, PO Box 283, Los Angeles, CA 90078 Ph/Fx #(213) 962-3065. Make check/money orders payable to Dead Beat Records.7"-$2.00 USA, $2.30 Canada, $2.50 World; LP/10"-$4.85 USA, $5.30 Canada, $5.50 World; CD -$6.85 USA, $7.30 Canada, $7.50 World.

MAXIMUMROCKNROLL music classifieds

WANTED: The World's In Shreds #2, Jawbreaker/Crimpshrine 7", Jawbreaker/Jawbox 7", Very Small World comp., The Mission District comp., Unfun 12", J.B./Samiam 7", Crimpshrine "Lame Gig Contest", Jawbreaker at Gilman 7". Send lists and/or prices to: Dan Tierney, 2811 San Luis St., Richmond, CA 94804, or call (510) 526-0448.

CHECK OUT NET SITE of Silver Rocket records in Sydney, Australia. New, rare and collectable vinyl + cds of punk - ska - reggae- Australiana. Find us at www. silverrocket. com.au

COMPILATION TAPES- Any punk/crust/hc bands interested in being on no-profit comp. tapes send music and info. You will get a copy when it's done that you could dub and distribute. Send to: Tim, 60 Locust St., Douglas, MA 01516.

WANTED: NOMEANSNO - Look Here Come The Wormies 7"/Live In Warsaw cass./Fear And Loathing #25 with NMN 7"/Infamous Scientists - Noise N' Rhythm 7"/Showbiz Giants - Gold Love + Benevolent Horn cass./V/A - Theft Of Paradise + Medium Raw cass./Where Are They Now? file 7"/Over A Century Of Vivisection and Anti-Vivisection lp. Ryan Rodier: 138 Main St., Saskatoon, Sask. S7N OB2 Canada. rrodier@shaw.wave.ca

LETS GET SERIOUS! You've got em' I want em'! Misfits - "3 Hits" white or blk vinyl, "Evil Live" (Agr Rock), "WolfsBlood" (German), Gauze "Equalizing", also "Half Wit", "Outsider" Jap comp., "Thrash Til Death" comp, BGK "WhiteMale". Buy or trade. Chris Erickson, 2919 Ottawa Ave. St. Louis Park, MN, 55416 USA

WANNA GET RID of your old Italian HC punk? Still searching for Upset Noise, Contrazione, Tampax, Hope & Glory, Plastic Surgery, Papi Queens....., Senza Patria lp, Negazione "Nightmare", VBR, Powerskins, Stigma, Tension, UBR 7" on Chaos Prod., demos & rarities. Send list to: Paolo Petralia, via O. Da Gubbio 67/69, 00146 Roma, Italy or www.mypages.com/soa

SOA RECORDS has some new releases: Toxic Bonkers cd (crust grindpunk), Radical Noise cd (Scandi-core), Growing Concern (youth crew!). $8ppd each, send $1 for our 600 items and more HC-punk-grind-emo-Oi! mailorder catalog. Still need distributors, labels that trade and good bands! S.O.A Records c/o Paolo Petralia, via O. Da Bubbio 67/69, 00146 Roma, Italy or www.mywebpages.com/soa

LOOKING FOR THE FOLLOWING Funeral Oration stuff: "Nothing Left To Laugh About" tape, "Godsend" tape, "Shadowland" 12", "Communion" lp. Also looking for any old demos, records or live stuff by: SFA , Insurrection, Mental Abuse, NY Hoods, Alone In A Crowd, Merel (demo) and 45 Grave "Autopsy" cd, I have a list of hundreds of items for trade. Just a taste: MITB/Crossed Out split 7", MITB/Born Against split 8", Plutocracy/976 split 7", Born Against/Suckerpunch split flexi, Neanderthal/Rorschach split 7", Rorschach/1.6 band split 7", almost all Screeching Weasel vinyl and lots more. Write or call Vinnie at 5220 Grand Ave. North Bergen, NJ 07047, ph#(201) 330-1322

LEGION OF DOOM: Political crustcore-thrash with dual vocals. 8 song demo tape $3.50ppd. Pins and stickers also write to: Tyler Bormann, 666 South Washington St. Medford, WI 54451

ULTRA - RARE CONCERT videos by Action Swingers, Adicts, Anti-heros, Business, Brutal Attack, Cocksparrer, Crass, Fear, GG Allin, Minor Threat, Misfits (new&old), Murder Junkies, Last Resort, Rose Tattoo, Samhain, Skrewdriver, Social Distortion, and more! Send $2.00 to: C. Kovaleski; PO Box 16602; Baltimore, MD 21221

VICTIMS OF CIRCUMSTANCE issue 2 features interviews with Spazz and the Automatics and comes with a tape comp Featuring I farm, Operation: Cliff Clavin, Egghead, The Force, Kanker Sores, etc... $2 bucks. Bobb Easterbrook; 37 Edgecumb Rd.; West Milford, NJ 07480

MID 80s HARDCORE SALE: v/a - 'Cleanse the Bacteria'Lp w/- Siege, Crude ss, Mob 47 + 14. v/a 'Pooping Punk Provocations' Lp w/- Stupids, Self Abuse +7. v/a 'God Bless America'Lp w/- Circle Jerks, Black Flag + 14. v/a- 'Oversea Connection' Lp w/- Gash, Psycho, Depression +17. v/a- 'Lets get Pissed, it's Xmas'Lp w/- Oi Polloi, Terveet Kadet, Crude SS +5. Youth Brigade/Vicious Circle - split Lp. Arm the Insane 'Virus' 7" (Aust.) Toxik Ephex 'Punk as Fuck' 7" (Scot.) The Exploited 'Army Life' 7". Send offers to Tom: P.O. Box 3023 Sth. Brisbane B.C. 4101 Q1d. Australia.

TRADE: Boston not LA LP, Vibrators 1st LP. Celtic Frost "Tragic Serenades" and "Emperor's Return," Sodom "Exposure of Sodomy," Welcome to 1984 LP, Capitol Punishment "Slum w/a View," GWAR "Hell-o" w/comic, X-ray Spex "Day the World..." 45, Public Domain video. WANTS: Geza X, Dawson, Stretch Heads, Anonymous, Ruins, Mystic stuff, Voivod. Send list to: 3709A / Crestview Ave., / Nashville, TN., / 37215.

FIST FUCKERS listen to geeking dream by the PIMPS, includes "K-9 christ," "My dad smokes crack," "Strap-on sally" on cassette. Whoremongers dying in the street. Only $4, send to: CNF / PO Box 9152 / Virginia Beach / VA., / 23450.

RECORDS 4 SALE - Welcome To Venice, Circle One - Patterns..., Stalag 13 - In Control, NoFX - Lib. Animation (original!), D.I. - 1st 12" (on Revenge), Token Entry - Beneath..., Faction - Dark Room, Stretch Marks - What..., Negative Approach - Tied..., Fear - Record, SSD - How..., SNFU - No One Else... (original), JFA - Live '84, AOD - Wacky, RKL + more, send bids or write. Jason/ 27498 Jimson Cir./ Temecula, CA 92591

LOOKING FOR THE ITALIAN horror soundtracks on vinyl. Esp. Goblin stuff! Zombi, Patrick, Wampir, Buio Omega, La Chiesa, etc. Also looking for 70s, 80s horror/sf soundtracks - Maniac, Prince of Darkness, Scanners, Basket Case, Dead Ringers, etc. Write to Naotaka Hiragi, 5 Mizushi, Ochi-Cho, Okawa-Gun, Kagawa, 769-2606, Japan

SALE: Screeching Weasel "Ramones" lp (cloth cover), "Happy Horny" 2x7", OP IV "Plea For" 7" (original), Dwarves 5", and these Pushead fan club singles - Sunny Day Real Estate, Tad, Cop Ass Grinders. Neil, 335 Mullen Ave, SF, CA 94110

TRADE: PHC/Infest flexi, Chain Of Strength "True Till Death" (clear or green), Crossed Out/Drop Dead 5" (original), Bl'ast "Power Of" lp (Wishingwell). Want: SxE, grind, metal, Japanese/foreign stuff. Neil, 335 Mullen Ave. SF, CA 94110

DISCOS SICOTICOS DISTRO its open with bands like AK-47, Pactum, Anarchus (500 copies came with patch), if you have a band, I'd like to carry your stuff. For a full catalog send: Mexico Estampillas, in Can./US/S. America US $1/world US $2, cash only to: Discos Sicoticos , Guillermo Ruiz Goddard, APDO: 32-096, Mexico, DF C.P. 06031

NO SOLUTION - new "7 Miles" 7" available now. OC hardcore rock & roll. Send $4 concealed cash or money order ($5 outside USA) and your address to PO Box 4412, Costa Mesa, CA 92628-4412 (ppd)

PUNK ROCK STUDIO in New Brunswick NJ featuring hourly and monthly rehearsal rooms and an analog 16 track studio with house engineer specializing in hardcore and punk bands. Have recorded Deadguy, Doc Hopper, Rorschach, Degenerics, Sinkhole, Voorhees, Aviso Hara, Bugjuice, Black Army Jacket, and more. Block rates available at under $30/hr! Contact Christopher Gobo Pierce c/o Technical Ecstasy, (732) - 418-2226

WANTED: ANYTHING BY Birthday Party. 7"s, 12"s, Lps, flexis, videos, etc. Will pay good price, for those willing to sell. Anyone from Australia, please get in touch! Include discription of condition, with set prices. Or I can state my offer when getting back with you. Write me at: Krispyn Joelyay; 2942 Kinsey Ave.; Des Moines, Iowa 50317

SELLING MY RECORD, tape and T-shirt collection. From funk to punk, please send your want list. Robert J. Farrington; 7 Florence Dr.; Clark, NJ 07066-1210, or (732) 388-1932.

HARDCORE LP'S. Send SASE for 4 page set sale list of my extensive hardcore collection. Dating 81 - 93. They're all for sale. After that comes the 7"s. They're all mint. Write: Fat Beat Records attn: R.Siko; 9 Desbrosses St.; NYC, NY 10013 USA

WANTED (ORIGINALS): Gauze-Fuckheads, Lipcream-7"s, Daedless Muss 8", Outo 1st 7" + LP, Systematic Death flexi, also stuff from Zouo, Mobs, Last Bomb, Kuro..../ / for trade: Amebix 7" + LP, Rose Rose-Kill...,Bombanfall 7", Fear of god 7", Beyond Possession 7", Ghoul flexi, Siege 7", Septic Death 7"s...//send want/trade/Sale list to: Wolfgang Wahl, Wettegasse 21, 72336 Balingen, Germany.

ANYTHING BRITISH! Hard to find books, cds, tapes, albums, singles from the U.K. From 50's to present. Pretty things, Billy Fury, Dave Berry, Jam, Slade, Merseybeat bands and many others. 1729 E. Commercial Blvd., #272, Fort Lauderdale, Fl., 33334 or call Patrick (954) 776-0310.

HARDSHIP 12" $7 PPD. See MRR #176 for review. Also available, Hardship/Bastard Children of The Roman Empire 7" and the soon to be out of print, Hardship /Gun Pro split 7". 7"er's $3 ppd. Cash or M.O. to: Stealth Ordeal Records, 2825 E. Burnside, Portland, OR., 97214.

MAXIMUMROCKNROLL classifieds

AUSTRALIAN BLOKES, I'm a 25 years old French-Canadian male. I'm now living in Europe but I'll soon move in your country, sometime around June 98. So, I'm seeking correspondence with you over there, I'm looking for people to hang out with or be involved in projects with, start a band, go to gigs and pubs or anything else open-minded. For more info just drop me a line. Cheers. Yves Berthiaume/ Route De France 15/ 2350 Saignelegier/ Switzerland

FREE CABLE PUNKS! Laid off punk cable worker shows how to build your own descrambler with only 7 Radio Shack parts, for under $13! 7 step instructions anyone can do . Fast service, you will receive in 2 weeks guaranteed! Send well concealed cash or $10 money order to: Ed, PO Box 157 West Sayville NY 11796

FREE HBO, PLAYBOY, SHOWTIME! Laid off punk cable worker tells all! Build a descrambler for under 13 bucks with 7 Radio Shack parts. Very easy to do, simple 7 step instructions sent immediately! Send $10 well concealed cash or money order to Ed Duckfield, PO Box 157, West Sayville, NY 11796 DIY punks!

DR MARTEN'S Size 10, white, in good shape, 10 hole. Selling because they don't fit. $40. Factory Videos, 1 each (no copies): Live from CBGB's, 112 min. Token Entry, Damage, AOD & more $14. The Further Adventures of Skaboom 55min $24. Sid & Nancy $8. All ppd USA. Heckle & Jeckle, 27361 Sierra Hwy #185, Canyon Country CA, 91351.

FREE ZINE Exercise your Opposition, an anarcho peace punk zine 8 years in the making. Dealing with eco-politics, anarchist struggles, interviews, and breaking down the walls and expectations within the punk scene that have always made us a little less real. Send 2 stamps (for postage) to: Exercise your Opposition, PO Box 1072, Grass Valley, CA 95945

SELLING OLD ISSUES of Maximum Rock N' Roll. I have the complete first years (issues 1-12) and also a single copy of issue #1. Make offer. Call Dave at 805-967-6577.

ME AND MY boyfriend are going to London sometime this year and are looking for people who know any cheap places to stay or anyone else who wants to go. Jill, 2002 Havemyer Lane, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

FIGHT THIS GENERATION fanzine. Issue nine is out now. Punk and indie rock music and fanzine reviews, constant complaining, and "What I Learned In School". For a copy, send one dollar or trade to PO Box 5183, Glencoe, Al 35905. email soulfish@usa.net.

ADULT VIDEOS!!! $30.00 For 10—30 Min. Videos. Hylton videos, 309 & half meares st. Wilm., N.C. 28401. Send MO or Cash to David Hylton for more info, call 910-254-0684, after 6pm. Ask for David for free movie with your order. Send a picture of a skinhead or punk naked for my new zine.

LOOKING FOR POSTERS!!! I'm interested in import posters from Europe. Especially anything of the Sisters of Mercy. I'm also looking for import/promo posters of any of the 4AD label bands, Cocteau Twins etc...etc...And import posters of industrial bands, Coil etc..etc...Let me know what you have/price. Write to: Severance 67 / 3555 Lincoln Ave., #24 / Oakland / Ca., / 94602.

FOR TRADE: old Dutch punk: Vopo's 1st lp, Mirandas 2nd 7", Bunker 7", Squits 7", Cheap N' Nasty 7", Agent Orange 'VD' 7", Mets/Ultrakort split lp, Rondos 'Fight Back' 7", Panic '13' 7", Swiss compil. lp 'Geneve Soif' (84') w/ discolokosst.....Will trade for Pushead fanclub 7"'s, rare Nirvana vinyl, early punk/hardcore from Japan, USA, Europe, Australia. Trade/ wantlists welcome. Filip De Volder, 1 Rue Des Marchanda, 66500 Prades, France

PUNK FEET: Punk dude with major fetish for other punk/queer dudes feet wants to hear from you. Clean, rank, sneaks, boots, skatewear, barc, sox - I'm in the southeast, but write from anywhere - respond gauran-teed. Also N2 other fetish, 70/80s punk. Pics, art, letters, whatever. No racists/homophobe please. A.Walker/PO Box 1651/Boone, NC 28607

WRITE ME! I'm a 16 year old punk guy from Germany who hates German-punk (I'm into Dr. Strange, Recess, etc.) and wants you to write me. Stay punk! Paul Tackenberg, Hingbergstrasse 215, 45470 Mulheim, Germany.

ARTIST WANTED for upcoming rubber stamp company - please submit copies of artwork along with suggested payment & phone # if possible. Bambi Bators; 89 Mason Stand FLR. Fall River, MA 02723

DON'T CARE if you're 14 or 45, don't if you're 'old school' or just brought you're first Crass album, all open-minded individuals with a sense of humor and fucking passion for life, write. The punk scene has one hell of a high turnover rate, but I'm not ready to quit yet. Anthony Aimless; PO Box 51637; Livonia, MI 48151

CMU, PITTSBURGH - Fall 1998, 19 y/o female art student seeking dorm roommate and new friends, students or otherwise. Into: Crass, Rudimentary Peni, Teengenerate, Filth, the Clash, Subhumans, Stones, Xray Spex, Bowie, some hardcore, garage, Oi!, blues/jazz, rap, Billi Holiday, Vonnegut, Chomsky, Warhol, Schiele, the Simpsons, biking and more. write to: gillian; 1209 spring garden st #3; greensboro, nc 27403

NEW YORK CITY Can anyone in NYC put me up around July/Aug. I'm into going to see bands, drinking, looking to hang out, go to pubs, party, meet people. Punk rock! Hi to all the people I met in Seattle last year. Drop me a line at: 45 Boswell St. / Toxteeth / Liverpool / L8 ORN / England. See ya soon, Gary.

20 Y/O JAILED SKATEPUNK wants socal Bettys, 18-23 to write. Should be out by 99'. Into snowboarding, skating, and everything from emo to Oi! to ska. Also interested in doing columns for DIY zines about prison life. Chicks and zines. Write : Lou Galluch, DE 1806, 1600 Waters Mill Road, Somerset, PA 15510

VIDEOS FOR TRADE/SALE (cheap), PAL/ NTSC. I've filmed Bikini Kill, Boss Hog, The Business, Cardiacs, Damned, Dickies, Green Day, Half Man Half Biscuit, J Church, Mekons, John Otway, R.F.T Crypt, Schwartzeneggar, Snuff, Splodgenessabounds, Thatcher On Acid, Wat Tyler, Zounds & many more; also have Ramones, Cramps, Sex Pistols, The Fall & loads more. Write to: Michael, 8 Barleycop Lane, Lancaster, LA1 2NQ, England

WE WANT YOUR CLOTHES! New punk clothing mailorder catalog starting. Bands send us samples of your logo on: t-shirts, patches, buttons, etc. Will trade for releases from punk record label. Help put shirts on the backs of the naked punks in America and beyond. Send to: Mensual Clothing Distro, PO Box 394, Hudson, NH 03051 (phone/fax) (603)595-5600

EVER SEEN somebody's nuts actually get nailed to a stepladder or a person's head hit by a tractor trailer? We specialize in videos of this intense nature. We carry an extensive list of Horror, Gore, S&M, True- death mondo film & other sleaze. For our Ultra-violent catalog, send $2.00 cash to: The Blood Shed; PO Box 16602; Baltimore, MD 21221

ULTRA-VIOLENCE! Horror, gore, mondo, S&M, Experimental, B&D, Extreme sex & violence! All videos $15.00/buy 4 - get 1 free! Also available: T-shirts, books, posters, magazines, etc. Beware our stuff will fuck you up for life! Please be 18+! For horror-show catalog send $2.00 cash to: The Blood Shed; PO Box 16602; Baltimore, MD 21221

STAY ALL OVER THE WORLD for free. The World for Free was started by a touring band to help with accommodations in people's houses. Since then it's grown to over 250 members. Individuals in and out of bands. Membership is $20 a year. Anybody. If you like people more than hotels, find out about The World For Free. For information send a SASE to: The World For Free, PO Box 137-M, Prince Street Station, New York NY 10012, USA. or email: TWFF@juno.com.

NO CLASS 'zine needs bands to be on upcoming comp. tape with first issue. Send demos or records and zines for review to: No Class, 124 Woodstock Ln. Greer, SC 29650

POINT OF INTEREST DISTRO. 20+ patches designs. 50+ demo/live/compilation tapes. Plus t-shirts, records, cd's, zines, buttons, stickers, bands, distros, labels, Zines, send samples, catalogs, lists for possible trade/ distro. Catalog available for only 2 stamps from Point Of Interest, 1004 N. 32nd St., Renton, WA 98056

ATTN: POLITICAL PUNKS. Bored teenager looking for interesting, mature, and well-thought out opinons on capitalism / socialism, American gov't, freedom to vs. freedom to be printed in zine mid '98. If you have anythig at all to say, contact: Pat Dent; 1130 Woodbridge Lane; Webster, NY 14580.

JAILED 23 YEAR OLD Oi Boy looking to correspond with skin females. Musically into Ska, reggae, oi, punk and HC** Bands, zines, labels, distros, I do artwork at reasonable prices, so drop me a line: Sonny J. Cortez TDC# 762999 / Connally Unit / HC 67 Box 115 / Kenedy, TX 78119 - (Will respond to all - No racist or fascist need write.)

GOT ART? Can help with your record jacket, shirt, zine, book....Traditional drawing including b/w, computer graphics, whole layout available and it's cheap too. Send 2 stamps for samples. Broken Ear - P.O. Box 660397 - Sacramento, CA 95866-0397 - USA.

WANTED: GOTHIC/INDUSTRIAL T-SHIRTS: Looking for, and in good condition, second hand T-shirts (M or L) that anyone doesn't want any more and are just collecting dust in your closet. Anywhere from the Sisters of Mercy, Dead Can Dance, to Ministry etc..etc...Contact me and describe to me what you have/price. Also looking for correspondance with like minded souls, Goth/industrial/punk types, especially in the bay area, let's get in touch and come up with something. Write to: Severance 67 / 3555 Lincoln Ave., #24 / Oakland / Ca., / 94602.

CHOKE DISTRIBUTION

DIVOT RECORDS
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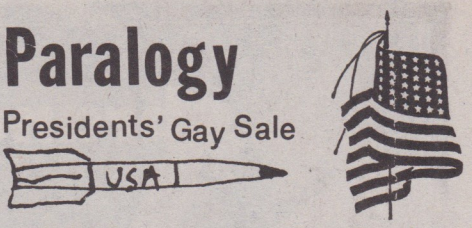

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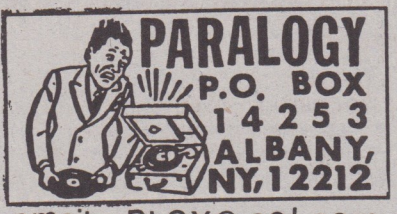

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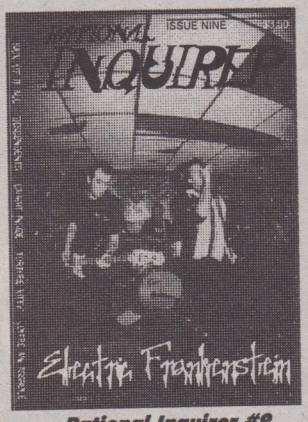

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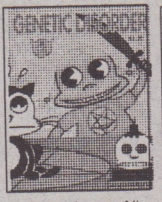

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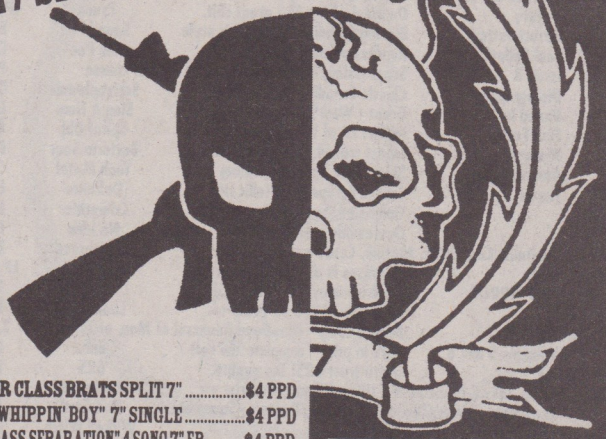

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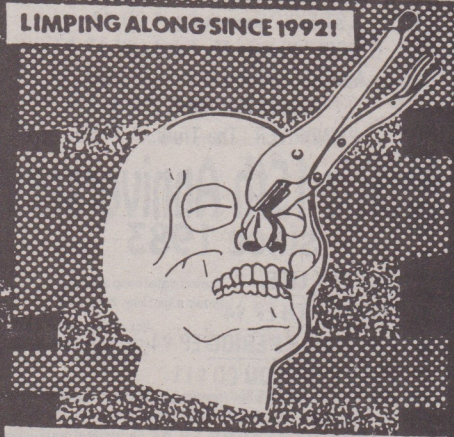

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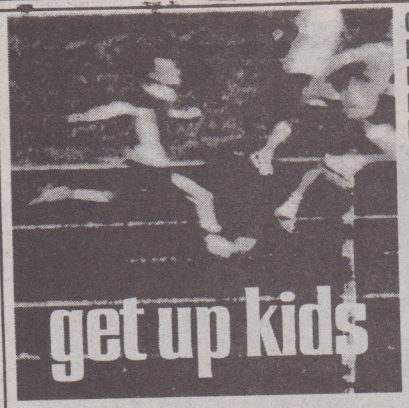

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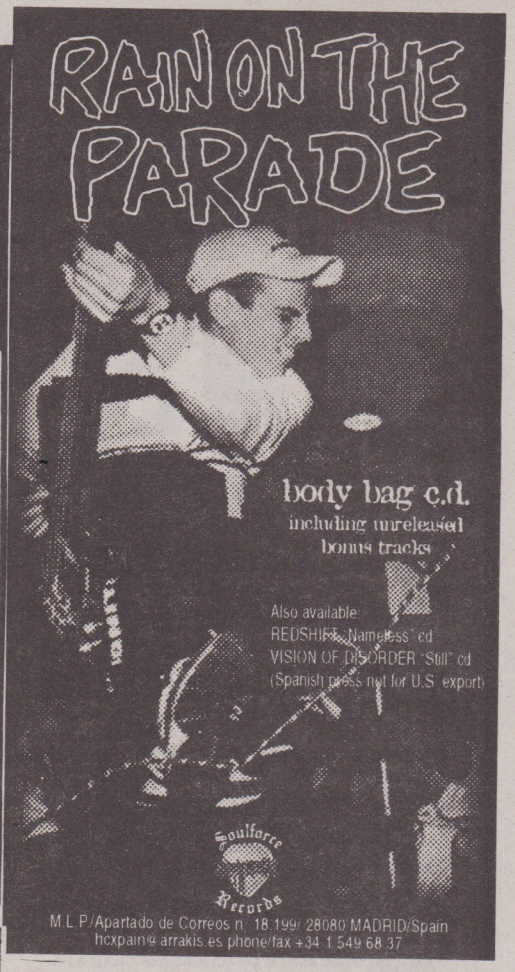

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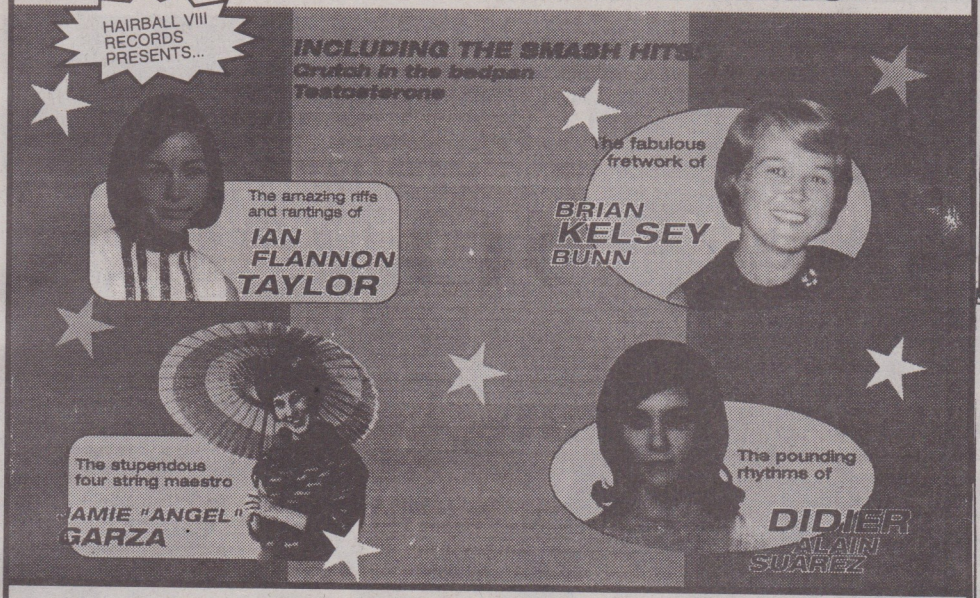

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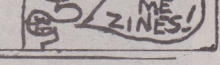

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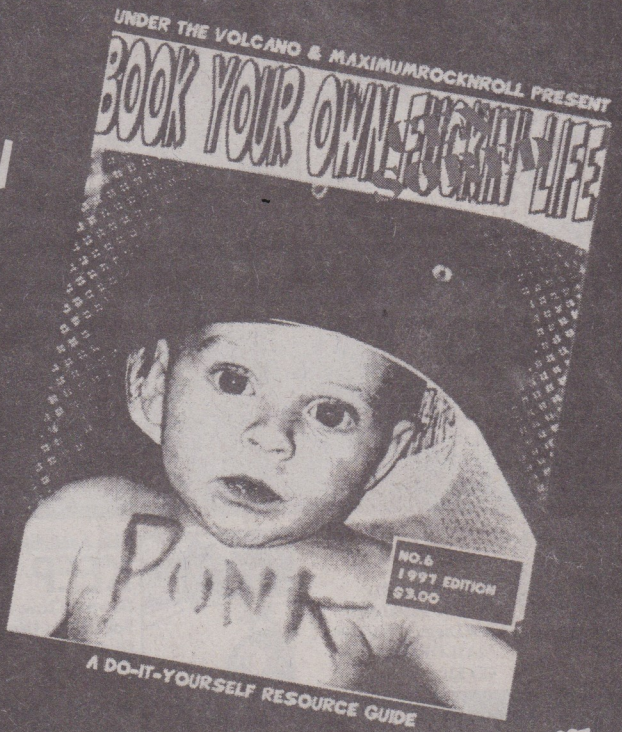

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